

# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3451.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1893.

PRICE  
THREEPENCE  
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

## ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN,

ALBEMARLE-STREET, PICCADILLY, W.  
LECTURE ARRANGEMENTS BEFORE EASTER, 1894.

Lecture Hour, 3 o'clock P.M.  
CHRISTMAS LECTURES.

Professor DEWAR, M.A. LL.D. F.R.S. M.R.I. Fullerton Professor of Chemistry, LL.D. SIX LECTURES (adapted to a Juvenile Audience) on 'Air, Gases and Liquids.' On December 28 (THURSDAY), December 29, 1893, January 2, 4, 6, 9, 1894. One Guinea the Course; Children under 10, Half-a-Guinea.

Professor CHARLES STEWART, M.R.C.S. Pres. L.S. Fullerton Professor of Physiology, R.I. NINE LECTURES on 'Locomotion and Position in Plants and Animals.' On TUESDAYS, January 16, 23, 30, February 6, 13, 20, 27, March 6, 13. One Guinea the Course.

The Rev. Canon AINGER, M.A. LL.D. THREE LECTURES on 'The Life and Genius of Swift.' On THURSDAYS, January 18, 25, February 1, Half-a-Guinea.

W. MARTIN CONWAY, Esq. M.A. F.R.S. F.R.G.S. THREE LECTURES on 'The Past and Future of Mountain Exploration.' On THURSDAYS, February 8, 15, 22. Half-a-Guinea.

Professor MAX MÜLLER, M.A. LL.D. THREE LECTURES on 'The Vedānta Philosophy.' On THURSDAYS, March 1, 8, 15. Half-a-Guinea.

Professor W. H. CUMMINGS, F.S.A. Hon. R.A.M. THREE LECTURES on 'English Schools of Musical Composition' (with Musical Illustrations). On SATURDAYS, January 20, 27, February 3. Half-a-Guinea.

The Right Hon. LORD RAYLEIGH, M.A. D.C.L. LL.D. F.R.S. M.R.I. Professor of Natural Philosophy, F.R.S. LECTURES on 'Light, with special Reference to the Optical Discoveries of Newton.' On SATURDAYS, February 10, 17, 24, March 3, 10, 17. One Guinea.

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The FRIDAY EVENING MEETINGS will begin on JANUARY 19th, at 8 P.M., when Professor DEWAR will give a Discourse on 'Scientific Uses of Liquid Air.' Succeeding Discourses will probably be given by Mr. ALFRED PERCEVAL GRAVES, Mr. T. J. CODRAN-SANDERSON, Professor W. F. R. WELDON, Professor JOHN NICHOL, Professor SYLVANUS P. THOMPSON, Professor JOHN G. MCKENDRICK, Dr. WILLIAM H. WHITE, The Right Hon. LORD RAYLEIGH, and other Gentlemen. To these Meetings Members and their Friends only are admitted.

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THURSDAY, December 21st, at 8.30 P.M.—The following Paper will be read: 'The Colonial Empire of the Portuguese to the Death of Albuquerque,' by C. RAYMOND BEAZLEY, M.A.

21, Hanover-square, W.

FOLK-LORE SOCIETY.—The Next Evening Meeting of this Society will be held at 22, Albemarle-street, on WEDNESDAY, December 29th, at 8 P.M., when the following Papers will be read, viz. (1) 'On Old Northern Folk-Lore and Folk-Faith,' by F. YORK POWELL, F.S.A.; and (2) 'On Scripture Tableaux in Italian Churches, with Notes on Italian Votive Offerings,' by G. H. D. ROUSE.

Papers or Notes by A. LANG, M. J. WALHOUSE, W. H. KINAHAN, W. A. GELSHI, and others will also be read.

21, Old-square, Lincoln's Inn, December 12th, 1893.

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The NEXT MONTHLY MEETING will be held on MONDAY NEXT, December 18th, at 20, Hanover-square, W., when Mr. J. H. ISAACS will read a Paper 'On a New Edition of Lowndes's Bibliographers' Manual.' Chair to be taken at 7.30 P.M.

ALFRED W. POLLARD, Hon. Sec.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1893.

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## LITERATURE

*The Pamirs.* By the Earl of Dunmore.  
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AMONG the numerous expeditions dispatched to the "Roof of the World" during the last twenty years Lord Dunmore's is not the least commendable, for though its geographical results were inconsiderable and its political conclusions are discreetly omitted, no journey has, on the whole, shed more light on the practical side of Central Asian travel. The near approach of Great Britain and Russia in Asia must eventually lead to increased communication between the two empires, and future explorers and sportsmen are likely to feel indebted to Lord Dunmore for his hints about clothing, stores, baggage, arms, and the like, for in those desolate regions to be well equipped may easily make all the difference between success and disaster.

Unlike the Littledales, Lord Dunmore attacked the Pamirs from the Indian instead of the Russian side. This course had its advantages, for Lord Lansdowne seems to have gone out of his way to do his utmost for his guest. From Peking two passports were procured authorizing Lord Dunmore and Major Roche to cross into Chinese Turkistan, and another from the British Foreign Office sanctioning his lordship's further progress over Russian territory. With these credentials it is not surprising that the travellers met with such few obstacles; but it would be unfair to withhold credit for Lord Dunmore's linguistic attainments, and more especially for his tact, which smoothed over many a difficulty.

The start was made from Leh in June of last year, the route lying along the well-known caravan line over the Karakoram Pass to Yarkand. We do not understand what Lord Dunmore means by dwelling on the difficulties of the "much dreaded" pass, as he calls it. The rarity of the air and its attendant discomfort are notorious, but a reference to the descriptions of Shaw, Thomson, Scully, Bellw, and other travellers (who, by-the-by, are more numerous than Lord Dunmore supposes) will show that they, at all events, thought but lightly of the Karakoram, and that if it were not for

the barometer one would hardly know of the presence of the pass, so easy is the incline on either side. A little further on the party passed the monument erected to the memory of poor Dalglish, who was assassinated by an Afghan. The cairn with its marble memorial stone was erected by Mr. H. Dauvergne, if we remember right—not by Capt. Bower, as we are told in this book.

From Yarkand the party struck westward and then southward into the mountain region of Sariqol, or Sariq-qol, as Lord Dunmore spells it, deriving it from *sariq*=yellow and *qol*, the Kirghiz for a wide valley. Over the Sariq-qolis, Agha Sahib of Bombay exercises much influence, and many are the votive offerings dispatched to him from his collectors in that distant mountain state. The late Agha Sahib used also to issue "chits," or passports, into Paradise, addressed to the Angel Gabriel, and by the sale of these indulgences among his Khoja followers in India realized enormous sums. Once, however, the tables were turned on the Agha. A very wealthy merchant died, leaving a son, who was clever, but rather sceptical as to the efficacy of the "chit," which in the case of his deceased father had cost the trifling sum of 20,000/.

"Instead of placing the chit in the father's coffin, this ingenious youth put it into his pocket, and about two months after the funeral went to the Agha with the chit in his hand, saying the Angel Gabriel had sent it back, as he regretted very much he could not admit his father into Paradise. The lad in consequence demanded a restoration of the two lakhs, and the Agha, fearing an *exposé*, refunded the money without remark."

The author's main object in Sariq-qol would appear to have been to shoot some of the *Orvis poli*, the huge mountain sheep peculiar to the Pamirs. In this he was successful, and brought back some fine heads as trophies, which he exhibited when he read his paper before the Royal Geographical Society in July last. His friendly reception by the mountaineers seems to have been due largely to the excellent impression produced by our annexation of the adjacent petty state of Hunza-Nagar, a political move the importance of which it is difficult to overrate. Incidentally we are supplied with a curious side-light on the installation of the new ruler of that country:—

"Mr. Macartney arrived here from Hunza, where he had been to assist at the installation of the new 'Mir.' Two Chinese mandarins had also been sent from Kashgar, and they thought that they were going to help at the ceremony conjointly with the British officers, in order to show that they had a say in the matter, as the Chinese consider they have a claim upon the Kunjuti country, but in this they were doomed to be disappointed, as Dr. Robertson, the political officer at Gilgit, would not allow them to have any voice in the matter, but politely informed them that if they chose to be present at the installation as *guests* they would be welcome. With this they were fain to be content, but left Hunza and returned to their own country in high dudgeon."

The account of the affair given by the Anglo-Indian press, we may observe, was very different, and drew a discreet veil over this little diplomatic reverse. The care, however, necessary in dealing with the wily Chinaman is proverbial, and further illustrated by the following story:—

"When our little war was being waged, the Chinese, not knowing what the outcome might be in the matter of boundaries, sent secretly and at night a newly prepared boundary stone on which were carved some Chinese characters, setting forth that this was the ancient Chinese frontier, &c., and dating it several hundred years ago. This stone, together with an image of Buddha, to give it an air of respectability and antiquity, was buried at the top of the Mintaka Pass leading into the Hunza country, so that had there been any discussion the Chinese would have accidentally found the stone, proving conclusively, &c."

Lord Dunmore evidently "hit it off" better with the Russians than with the Chinese, to whom he told some home truths on more than one occasion.

"What is the use," I said, "of your claiming this and that on the Pamirs, if you don't protect it with some soldiers?" for I well knew that the Chinese force in the Pamirs existed only on paper at Peking."

And his lordship winds up with this wholesale denunciation of the race:—

"Talk about the proverbial insularity of the average Briton, it is nothing in comparison with the limited scope of a Chinaman's horizon, for he knows absolutely nothing outside his native land and believes that China is the only country in the world."

The approach to Russian territory—or what is claimed as such—led the travellers past the scene where the fighting took place between the Russians and Afghans on the Alichur Pamir. The blood-stained coats of the latter lay pell-mell with the empty bottles and cigarette ends of the former—a gruesome jumble. Thanks, however, to the Emperor's orders, Lord Dunmore was accorded a more hospitable reception by the Russian officers quartered in this frightful waste. It is a curious commentary on the supposed inability of troops to traverse, much more to occupy, the Pamirs, to read of Lord Dunmore's being treated to excellent dinners with plenty of vegetables, and housed in a comfortable fort warmed with brick stoves. At Rang Kul Fort the cold was so intense (10° below zero in the afternoon) that Russian peasant dances, Cossack dances, and, lastly, a Highland reel were started one after the other to keep the circulation going. In the night the temperature sank to something fearful; the thermometer marked -20°, and then gave out through inability to register more.

On reaching Kashgar the British officers received much civility and kindness from the Russian consul, M. Petrovsky, and his wife:—

"He has a guard of forty Cossacks with two officers, and they are quartered in barracks adjoining the Russian consulate. The consul himself never goes out walking or riding, except with an escort of Cossacks. There are no other consulates in Kashgaria, Russia being the sole country represented.....The Indian Government have no properly accredited agent in Kashgar, either as consul or resident agent. The importation of Indian tea is absolutely prohibited; I suppose because the Chinese have found out how much better it is than their own. The Russian merchants and traders, on the other hand, enjoy many rights and privileges that British and subjects of other nations are debarred from."

One of the most original scenes described by the author was a Chinese dinner given in his honour by the commander-in-chief at Kashgar. It consisted of sharks' fins

sausages, eggs, ducks, pigs' feet coloured with cochineal, lotus seed, sea-slugs, bamboo shoots, and the crackling of five tiny sucking-pigs, which last, it appears, indicates the host's desire to pay his guests the highest honour possible. The dinner consisted altogether of thirty-seven courses, and was the longest meal but one that Lord Dunmore ever sat down to.

We do not know that we can select in conclusion a better extract than the following reflection, as fairly characteristic of the spirit in which the journey was undertaken, and to which, we feel convinced, its success was largely due:—

"There is a freemasonry of the road, which obtains all over Central Asia, and, to my mind, is a very sound principle to go upon. It amounts to this: that you look upon every man as your friend until he proves to be your enemy; whereas, the outcome of our much vaunted civilization in Europe is that you look with suspicion upon every man you meet, until you have proved him to be your friend. There is an almost childlike trust and utter absence of suspicion, displayed by these people, which is very refreshing after the stilted conventionalities and etiquette of Western Europe."

*Madame: a Life of Henrietta, Daughter of Charles I., and Duchess of Orleans.* By Julia Cartwright (Mrs. Henry Ady). (Seeley & Co.)

WE confess to having begun the perusal of Mrs. Ady's latest work with a disposition to question whether the memory of Madame, bright and attractive as she was, was quite worthy of the 400 pages which have here been devoted to her. We still think, though our view has been greatly modified, that the book would have been even more effective than it undoubtedly is had it been shorter. Mrs. Ady has essayed to depict, not merely Madame herself and the principal events of her chequered life, but her whole circle, with an abundance of detail which is unnecessary and even at times bewildering. There is rather much ado about—we will not say nothing, but comparatively little. The descriptions of the gowns and jewels which she wore at the court balls, of her appearances in pastoral and allegorical plays, of moonlight excursions on the river, and the like, are too frequent; while the insertion of the insipid tributes of courtly poetasters certainly does not tend to heighten the effect. On the other hand, Mrs. Ady has established a position for Madame of historical interest far beyond that which has generally been assigned to her. The part which she played at the time of the Treaty of Dover has been fully appreciated—has, indeed, been greatly over-estimated. The whole thing had been brought completely into shape before she left France; and although she did well the little which she went to do, and though that little was not unimportant, there appears no reason to suppose that the ultimate course of events was in the least degree altered by a journey which, but for the immediate tragedy of her death, would scarcely have found a prominent place in history. But though this be so, we now realize far more clearly that Henrietta's position as the trusted *confidante* of Charles II. had been conferred upon her as early as 1662, and still more definitely in 1664

and 1665, when a breach with France was imminent. "I do in the first place desire you to use your interest and credit to remove all jealousies of any change in me," writes Charles in 1664, "or that I am lesse warme in my inclinations towards a firme friendship with France, then I have professed to be." And again:—

"Whatever be my fortune in this, I should runne it cheerfully, if my concernement for you did not perplex me, who I know will have a hard part to play betweene your brother and brother-in-law, and yett methinkes it is to early to dispaire of seeing all things well agreed betwixt us, and.....it must be your part to keepe yourselfe still in a state of contributing thereunto, and having a most principle part therein, which will not be a hard taske to your discretion and good talent; and be assured the kindnesse I have for you will in all occasions make me mindfull of what I owe you, and of reserving the obliging parts for you, and leaving the contrary for others if there should be any such."

During the succeeding years, after she had acquired the confidence of Louis in an equal degree, she carried out these general instructions with great tact and success, throwing herself heartily into the work of strengthening, under all conditions, the current which tended continually to make the personal interests of Louis and Charles coincide. She smoothed over little diplomatic jealousies, soothed the ruffled spirits of ambassadors, and did many useful things which a pretty and clever woman, if she is gifted with discretion as well, can do better than any one else. She never babbled; and she realized with ripe self-restraint the limits of her understanding of the questions with which she had to deal. "I am not clever enough to know what this means," she writes, "but these are the king's own words which I repeat to you." Moreover, she had no scruples of political morality to impede her when engaged in furthering the exquisite chicanery of both monarchs. "Profit by this," she writes to Charles in 1664,

"in God's name, and lose no time in obtaining a promise from the king not to help the Dutch. You understand that he cannot bind himself publicly, owing to his engagements with them, although we all know these are only worth what he chooses to make them. For, as with everything else in this world, it is necessary to keep up a good appearance. You must therefore content yourself with a private agreement, which is likely in fact to be more lasting, and I promise to see that this is done in good faith."

The quotations which we have made are taken from that portion of the book which will constitute its chief value in the eyes of historical students. Mrs. Ady has copied from the French archives—in which they were placed after Madame's death—the whole of the confidential letters of Charles II. to his sister, and has also printed such of Henrietta's replies as she could collect from different sources. Many of the former had already been published in a French translation by M. de Baillon; but both they and some which he had omitted now appear in Charles's racy English.

We agree with Mrs. Ady in thinking that these letters help to form a more favourable view of Charles, both as man and king, than is usually adopted; they betray a good deal of natural affection, and they tend to disprove, if disproof were needed, the

idea that—during the first ten years of his reign, at any rate—Charles was either ruled by his ministers or the humble servant of Louis. His attitude towards the French monarch throughout the negotiations of those years is well expressed in his own words:—

"I desire very much to have a strict frindship with France, but I expect to finde my account in it"; or, still more strongly:—

"Nobody desires more to have a strict frindship with the K. of France then I do, but I will never buy it upon dishonourable termes, and I thanke God my condition is not so ill, but that I can stand upon my owne leggs, and beleve that my frindship is as valuable to my neighbours as theres is to me."

This is how he deals, in 1661, with an attempt to induce him to dispense with the customary salute to British men-of-war:—

"I have only time to tell you that I extremely wonder at that which you writ to me of, for certainly never any ships refused to strike their pavilion when they met any ships belonging to the Crowne of England. This is a right so well known, and never disputed by any kinge before, that, if I should have it questioned now, I must conclude it to be a *querelle d'Allemand*. I hope what you say to me is only your feares, for I will never believe that anybody who desires my frindship will expect that which was never so much as thought of before, therefore all I shall say to you is, that my ships must do their duties, lett what will come of it! And I should be very unworthy if I quit a right and goe lower than ever any of my predecessors did, which is all I have to say."

On matters less serious Charles's animated letters are full of notices of his own habits and of the society around him, which will find many interested readers. Whether humorously condemning himself as "naturally more lazy then I ought to be," or excusing himself from writing on the ground that he has been "a fox-hunting this day and very wearie," or priding himself upon "playing the good husband, having been abroad with my wife," or describing how the Queen, obviously at his suggestion, has "made two of her chaplains dance country dances in her bedchamber," or laughing at the English ladies for their willingness to submit to any absurdity of fashion so long as they know it to be French, or giving little character sketches such as that of Killigrew—"a most notorious lyar, who does not want wit to sett forth his stories pleasantly enough,"—he is always racy, buoyant, and readable. We can give but one short extract, but it is a delicious one:—

"We have the same disease of sermons that you complaine of there, but I hope you have the same convenience that the rest of the family has, of sleeping out most of the time, which is a greate ease to those who are bounde to heare them."

Mrs. Ady has depicted the political phase of Madame's life with considerable skill; but she seems engaged on a more congenial task when dealing with its other aspects, and when making us realize to the full that this career, so romantic in its early adventure, and later so brilliant in its surface colouring, was infinitely pathetic in the absence of all that most makes for a woman's happiness. Gifted with great personal and intellectual charms, the acknowledged queen of the gracefully, if rapidly dissolute



Court in which, according to Mrs. Ady, she lived almost without reproach, it is clear that she pined like some sweet-scented wild flower in the artificial heat and glare until, between over excitement, imprudence, and fatigue, she contracted that wasting disease which the celebrated Gui Patin had diagnosed as consumption as early as 1664, and which, had not accident intervened, would, without doubt, have carried her off at an early age. For ten years she received the devoted homage of a brilliant society of soldiers, prelates, poets, artists, rakes, and even of her own sex. If Charles ever loved any one but himself, it was his "deare, deare Minette"; nor is there reason to think that Bossuet said much more than he meant in his funeral panegyric. And the reverse of the picture is that she was mated to a contemptible fool who lacked only the ability to be as great a knave; one incapable of a thought or aspiration in common with her, whose sole tribute to a superiority which even he had wit to feel was a ridiculous jealousy, expressed in precisely the way most calculated to arouse a high-spirited woman's contempt. "If he had strangled me when he fancied I had wronged him," she exclaims,

"I could at least have understood it; but to go on teasing me as he does, all about nothing, this is really more than I can bear."

Whether she ever had "wronged" her husband cannot be told. That there were compromising passages in her life she herself was ready to admit; but of positive evidence of frailty there is not a trace. With the monstrous assertions regarding her relations with Charles, which obtained a certain currency at the hands even of grave though credulous writers, Mrs. Ady could not be expected to deal. But even where, having regard to the conditions of an unhappy married life and the accepted views of female morality, a lapse from strict virtue would have found many apologists, she insists upon Henrietta's absolute fidelity to her marriage vow. Mrs. Ady will go no further than admit a tendency to coquetry and a want of prudence, from the dangers of which Madame escaped only by perfect frankness. "The worst that her enemies can say of Henrietta is that she did not object to being adored." Her confessor, indeed, in the supreme moment of death, used language which might seem to point to something graver, though it is possible that the "austere priest," in Mrs. Ady's explanatory phrase, was only improving the occasion in a professional way. On the other hand, no contemporary writer of credit ever accepted her guilt; while the outspoken German princess who succeeded at once to her title and to her contempt for her husband, and who had every opportunity of hearing and of judging reports, recorded in the plainest terms her conviction that Henrietta was far more sinned against than sinning.

Mrs. Ady gives a touching and in no respect overstrained description of Henrietta's death. She deals exhaustively with the theory of poisoning, which a modern sense of the improbable has rejected, and restates all the evidence worthy of the name. It is scarcely necessary to point out that in the seventeenth century no one of rank who died suddenly was supposed to have died

a natural death. James I. was said to be "poisoned"; so was his son Henry, who really died of typhoid fever. So was Charles II.; so was Madame's own daughter, who became Queen of Spain. In Madame's case, of course, suspicion at once fell upon her husband, and upon his *âme damnée*, her persecutor, the scoundrelly Chevalier de Lorraine. But Monsieur's character did not, as Mrs. Ady remarks, fit him to play the part of a great criminal, nor was his behaviour in the death-chamber that of a guilty man; and Mrs. Ady easily disposes of the theory that the Chevalier had planned the crime in Italy. The positive evidence, on the other hand, which she adduces, is completely satisfactory, and there is little doubt that an acute attack of peritonitis proved fatal to an enfeebled constitution.

In conclusion, we sincerely congratulate Mrs. Ady upon the successful achievement of a laborious and difficult task. Her book will certainly remain the standard authority on the subject for English readers, and we hope that we may before long add to "Sacharissa" and "Madame" the name of some other heroine upon whose memory she has thought well to expend her undoubted literary gifts.

#### TWO BOOKS ON IRISH SOCIAL LIFE.

*Seventy Years of Irish Life: being Anecdotes and Reminiscences.* By W. R. Le Fanu. (Arnold.)

*The Last Earls of Barrymore, 1769-1824.* By John Robert Robinson. (Sampson Low & Co.)

'SEVENTY YEARS OF IRISH JOKES' would have been a more fitting title for the amusing reminiscences by which Mr. Le Fanu restores the Irishman to his position of buffoon of the empire. Many of the bulls and witticisms and practical jokes are familiar to every jarvey in Dublin—even Sir Boyle Roche's bird makes its appearance—but no Irish exile likes a bull the less because it was first heard by him years ago in the old country, and many of the stories, though well known, have never till now been written down.

In a brief preface Mr. Le Fanu informs us that he is within a few years of eighty, and that this is his "first and only book"; but this appeal to the mercy of a "generous public" is little needed, for his airy record is brightly written, easy to read, very easy to understand, and conceived in a vein of cheerful good humour which is sure to hit the public taste, even in a pessimistic age. Mr. W. R. Le Fanu was born in 1816, and ten years later his father was appointed Dean of Emly and Rector of Abington in the county of Limerick. The two boys, Joseph Sheridan and our author, were brought up in the heart of Ireland and amid the wittiest of peasantry. At Abington they lived through that tithe war which the elder predicted to be but a prelude to the war against rent, and which provides us with the most interesting, and the only melancholy, chapter in the book. His account of the guerilla contest is admirable, and he never forgets that right was on the side of the wrongdoers. Yet, good though this chapter is, the success of his book rests on the lighter passages.

Here are excellent stories such as one hears (and, alas! forgets) every day in the streets of Dublin:—

"Some pikes which had been found concealed were exhibited at a Conservative meeting in Dublin. Some one cried out, 'A groan for the pikes!' A voice from the crowd replied, 'A bloody end to them!'"

"Anything suggests politics. My father told me that at a theatre in Dublin, shortly after the Union, when a well-known actress was singing a favourite song, the refrain of which was 'My heart goes pit-a-pat, pit-a-pat,' a man from the gallery cried, 'A groan for Pitt, and a cheer for Pat!'"

Every one who knows the ready wit of an Irish crowd will believe these stories. A laughable tale, too, is that of Father Prout—the real Father Prout, from whom Father Frank Mahony took his *nom de guerre*—who went to Rome to buy an altarpiece which had been subscribed for by his flock. Another priest, Father Rufus, piloted him to all the dealers and artists he knew of, but nothing suitable was discovered:—

"A few days afterwards Prout called again to say he had found exactly what he wanted; but, before buying it, he would like Fr. Rufus to see it, and give his opinion. When he saw it he exclaimed, 'Why, man, that's a Diana!' 'I don't care what it is,' said Prout, 'it's lovely, and I shall have it; these chaps of mine at Ardnegehy will never know the difference.'"

Father Rufus appears in many of Mr. Le Fanu's good stories:—

"A poor Italian organ-grinder, weary after a long walk, asked a peasant whom he met near Carrigtuohil how far he was from Cork. 'Just four short miles,' was the answer. 'What do you mean,' said Father Rufus, who happened to pass at the time, 'by deceiving the poor fellow? You know well enough that it's eight long miles.' 'Sure, your reverence,' said the other, 'I seen the poor boy was tired, and I wanted to keep his courage up. If he heard your reverence—but I'm plazed to think he didn't—he'd be downhearted entirely.'"

The story of the angler who, after eliciting a suspiciously long list of affirmative answers, inquired whether there were any thermometers in the stream, and got the reply, "Them does be there, too, your honour; but they comes at lather in the season than the white throats," is a joke upon which many variations have been played, and is less amusing than the following:—

"Another priest, having given a glass of whisky to a carman who complained of not feeling well, said to him, 'How do you feel now? Didn't that make another man of you?' 'Bedad, it did, your reverence, and the other man would like a glass too.'"

The Irish officer whose head had been shaved by his comrades while he was drunk, and who exclaimed in the morning, "Faix, they've called the wrong fellow by mistake!" is another old but not unwelcome friend.

Some amusing side-lights are thrown on the manufacture of poteen:—

"We always dry the malt in the beginning of July, when all the police are taken off to Derry to put down the riots there; so we can do it safely then. God is good, sir, God is good."

Another trick often played on the police is to give information where they will find a still; but the still is an old one, full of holes. Thus a pound reward is sometimes obtained for a still not worth sixpence.

"Of Irish bulls there is no end," so Mr. Le Fanu opens a chapter to which we turn eagerly; but he adds not one bull to the public herd, and omits several modern masterpieces. One might infer from this book that bulls died between the Union and Catholic Emancipation. Yet new bulls are as good as old ones, though less numerous, and the *Times* witness who thought it "better to be a coward for five minutes than kill all the rest of your life" was a true son of the soil.

But if Mr. Le Fanu's stories are not without exception new or true, they are always entertaining and kindly, and they are never discreditable to his race; indeed, through these genial pages we breathe that atmosphere of lightheartedness and geniality that makes even a wet day at a bad inn enjoyable in Ireland, and that must secure for this volume the hearty welcome that wit and merriment always make for themselves even in the land of the Sassanach. No new light is thrown on the land question; Home Rule is not so much as mentioned—omissions on which Mr. Le Fanu is to be congratulated. They mark him as an Irish writer of rare originality, and will secure him a grateful and appreciative public, as they have already secured him grateful and appreciative reviewers.

It will be seen that Mr. Robinson leaves off just where Mr. Le Fanu begins, so that the two works furnish a sketch of Irish wit and character for over a century; but the record of the Barrymores is on a higher social, and lower mental, moral, and literary level than anything in Mr. Le Fanu's pleasant volume. The humour of the circle of the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV., appears to have been mainly of the "practical" order, and it is difficult to find amusement in the heavy horseplay and stupid buffoonery of Wargrave. No doubt the youth and animal spirits of the host made much tolerable, and even amusing, that sounds boorish with the dust of a century upon its folly; but Mr. Robinson fails to make good his claim to "genius, learning, and wit" for the wild hero of his pages:—

"No situation came amiss to him; his wit and humour were boundless, and their magic dissipated gloom and drove dull care away from all with whom he came in contact.....He was gay, but not absurd; he was witty without being uncharitable.....in fact, whatever rôle he undertook he excelled in, by intuitive genius."

Here are a few illustrations:—

"Another diversion of the Earl's, on a theatre evening, was to slip out after the performance, in a yokel's habiliments from the theatrical wardrobe, and then mix with the visitors coming out of the theatre. If he heard any criticism passed depreciatory of a performer, or upon others, they always heard of it from the Earl at supper, exaggerated with all his powers of wit and rillery."

This was not the only means by which the hospitable nobleman put his guests at their ease, for in the next chapter we find him again entertaining a social inferior:—

"The Earl's 'domestic' poet, amanuensis, or what you will, was not noted either for cleanliness of person or habits, a fault peculiar to many of the genus [*sic*]. One evening when dining with his patron, he called a footman to bring pen and ink so that he might note a *bon mot* of his host's. The Earl of Barrymore sug-

gested that 'if he would wash his hands he would obtain a quart of that fluid!'"

Clearly the ink thus obtained was not permanent; the wit has faded, and only the grossness remains. But the insult was not resented, for this amanuensis, "Pasquin," "served his lordship well, his wit and rillery being invaluable to his lordship on various festive and other meetings at Wargrave." As, for example:—

"The Earl would start after dinner some pastime more waggish than usual, for which he would enlist Pasquin's aid. The latter, in making a fallacious charge, had certainly no equal at Wargrave. The procedure would be the making of a false allegation against some guest, privately named by the Earl, which would be as preposterous as it was untrue; and would rouse the anger of the accused, who would refer his calumniator to his name and reputation. Neither would appease the instigator of these proceedings, who would then turn and appeal to Pasquin, thus giving the latter his cue. Pasquin would exclaim: 'Sir! I can believe anything against the gentleman.' 'What do you mean, sirrah?' replied the incensed guest. 'Nay, my good sir, do not put yourself in a flurry,' Pasquin would reply, with judicial calm, 'I will appeal to the company,' to whom he would propound: 'What is that gentleman not capable of, who shaves himself with the razor with which his wife cut her throat,' an assertion that would drive to all but frenzy the indignant visitor, who, more often than not, got up and left the room. When this happened, the door was locked, and a cry raised, 'Put it to the ballot.' The box and balls were then brought in, and the vote taken, which would be, the black balls in a majority of two or three, to one white. The Earl would then deem the charge proved, when the following resolution would be framed and passed: 'That a man capable of such an offence against good taste, must be sent to Coventry.' The unfortunate delinquent was then sought, and willy nilly dragged into the room to hear the resolution read. When, if it had not dawned on him to recollect where he was, that he was being made a fool, there was nothing left for him but to pack up and be off, which would also mean walking the village all night."

To readers who admire this sample of Mr. Robinson's narrative gift and the Earl of Barrymore's wit we recommend the volume with confidence.

*Verses.* By Christina G. Rossetti. (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.)

THE book of 'Verses' which Miss Rossetti has just published is composed of short poems which have appeared in three of her devotional books, 'Called to be Saints,' 'Time Flies,' and 'The Face of the Deep,' where they are interspersed with prose comments and meditations. Everything that Miss Rossetti writes possesses a charm and interest of its own, and at least one of the three volumes, 'Time Flies,' does indeed appeal not only to the religious public, but to the amateur of whatever is delightful in whatever kind of literature. But the volume of collected verses addresses itself definitely to the general public, and can be read without the more or less agreeable interruption of the edifying prose. It is a book which will no doubt be largely, and suitably, read for its devotional tendency by people who will not see the difference between such verse and the verse of the late Frances Ridley Havergal. But it will be appreciated for its actual poetical value by all who care for

Miss Rossetti's work, that is to say, by all who care for poetry.

There is nothing in this volume quite equal to such earlier masterpieces as 'Despised and Rejected,' 'Passing away, saith the World, passing away,' or 'Advent.' But, on the other hand, there is scarcely a single piece, scarcely a snatch or fragment, which is not a satisfying piece of work, an adequate work of art. These little pieces, so short, simple, fragmentary in character, so intangible very often, and so elusive in their charm, are a sort of noting of the sensations of the soul—sensations almost "too simple and too sweet for words," too fleeting to be seized and recorded. For instance:—

O ye who love to-day,  
Turn away  
From Patience with her silver ray;  
For Patience shows a twilight face,  
Like a half-lighted moon  
When daylight dies apace.

But ye who love to-morrow,  
Beg or borrow  
To-day some bitterness of sorrow:  
For Patience shows a lustrous face  
In depth of night her room;  
Then to her sun gives place.

Or, again, to take a piece which brings out a certain kinship with older writers—with Donne, perhaps:—

Piteous my rhyme is  
What while I muse of love and pain,  
Of love misspent, of love in vain,  
Of love that is not loved again:  
And is this all then?  
As long as time is,  
Love loveth. Time is but a span,  
The dalliance space of dying man:  
And is this all immortals can?  
The gain were small then.

Love loves for ever,  
And finds a sort of joy in pain,  
And gives with nought to take again,  
And loves too well to end in vain:  
Is the gain small then?  
Love laughs at "never,"  
Outlives our life, exceeds the span  
Appointed to mere mortal man:  
All which love is and does and can  
Is all in all then.

Is there not something here of the ingenious quaintness, the solemn curiosity, of Donne, with a touch, too, of the instinctive, and as it were unaccountable, felicity of Shelley? Miss Rossetti's effects, which are often in themselves subtle, are generally effects of a special simplicity. In her religious poems, more particularly, she has certain definite things to say; her subject absorbs her, and seems, itself, to find for her the appropriate words, the simplest, the sincerest, the most direct and vivid. For her art is concerned absolutely with the essentials, needing neither elaboration nor ornament, so sufficing, in their proper beauty, are the words which interpret the beauty of her emotions and sensations.

Et vive un vers *bien* simple, autrement c'est la prose,

says Verlaine, and it is just this really simple, and so really poetical, kind of verse that Miss Rossetti writes. Very often her simplicity is attained by an elaborate and difficult process, as in the continuous rhyming of the same word, a favourite device, loved, doubtless, for the cumulative effect of its fervent monotony. And sometimes there is a touch of the fantastic (after her earlier secular manner) in the symbolism of such pieces as this:—

N° 3  
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Who is this that cometh up not alone  
From the fiery-flying-serpent wilderness,  
Leaning upon her own Beloved One:  
Who is this?

Lo, the King of kings' daughter, a high princess,  
Going home as bride to her Husband's Throne,  
Virgin queen in perfected loveliness.

Her eyes a dove's eyes and her voice a dove's moan,  
She shows like a full moon for heavenliness:  
Eager saints and angels ask in heaven's zone,  
Who is this?

But always there is the same subtle use of simple words, and there are generally simple rhythms, or rhythms which are constrained to have an air of the instinctive and the unpremeditated, with a certain attractive homeliness in the handling of the abstract, which has always been one of her characteristics, from the days of 'Goblin Market' till now.

O marvel of marvels, if I myself should behold  
With mine own eyes my King in His city of gold;  
Where the least of lambs is spotless white in the fold,  
Where the least and last of saints in spotless white is stoled,  
Where the dimmest head beyond a moon is aureoled.  
O saints, my beloved, now mouldering to mould in the mould,  
Shall I see you lift your heads, see your cerements unrolled,  
See with these very eyes? who now in darkness and cold  
Tremble for the midnight cry, the rapture, the tale untold,  
"The Bridegroom cometh, cometh, His Bride to enfold."

Cold it is, my beloved, since your funeral bell was tolled:  
Cold it is, O my King, how cold alone on the wold.

There, in the most deeply personal manner, we see the characteristics of this religious poetry, which is the only purely religious poetry now being written in this country, or, indeed, easily to be found in recent literature. It is not the soaring rapture of Crashaw, which shrieks aloud, almost, in the fever of its devotional ecstasy; much less is it akin to the dusty, daily pieties of George Herbert. Hers is, indeed, a rapture, but contained, unconstrained, saddened with a conscious unworthiness, grave with the sorrow of the world. It has its own peculiar note of personal sorrow, an undertone always, if only an undertone. Though written, doubtless, with a definitely religious intention, it is never didactic, never attempts (what is of all things most impossible to poetry, and most abhorrent) the heresy, as it has been called, of teaching, —is edifying after all, one might almost say, by accident. Here is a poet, one of the greatest of living poets; she is deeply religious by nature, and consequently her verse is suffused with religious emotion. The sequence is inevitable; it is but the blossoming of the tree after its kind. Of born poets, one is a ploughman, and writes of the "banks and braes" of his countryside; another, having read *Æschylus*, is naturally fired to attempt a 'Prometheus Unbound.' Miss Rossetti, a solitary student of the Bible, finds a starting-point for poems in the suggestion of this or that Bible text. It is herself, really, that she puts into these poems, her deepest self; and to give adequate expression to that, to the real self, is the utmost that we can ask or get from any poet.

*Weather Lore.* By Richard Inwards, F.R.A.S. (Stock.)

THIS is an excellent collection of the proverbial sayings, rhymed or unrhymed, which have been passed on from generation to generation, and have until comparatively recent times supplied most of the teaching of humble travellers by land or sea and unlettered husbandmen. Mr. Inwards is generous to these "blind gropings in the dark"; he prays his readers to send any rhymes which he may have omitted, and thinks that "out of so many shots some must hit the mark." When all are gathered together science can be brought to bear on them. He is careful to remind us, too, that

"although skilled observers, armed with the delicate instruments contrived by modern science, may be able to forecast with some success the weather for a few hours, yet with respect to the coming months and seasons, or the future harvests and vintages, the learned meteorologist is only on a level with the peasant who watches from the hilltop the 'spreadings and driftings of the clouds,' or hazards his rude weather guesses from the behaviour of his cattle or the blossoming of the hedge flowers which he daily sees."

What has always struck us as the main difficulty in dealing with weather proverbs —namely, that owing to the re-formation of the calendar warnings or felicitations are made to fit dates for which they were not intended—is of course seen by Mr. Inwards. The North, too, is so much colder than the South that another difficulty presents itself. "Cast not a clout till May be out" is prudent advice in the South; but May might have to be altered to June in the North, which we once heard described as "a whole garment colder than the South of England."

Mr. Inwards adheres rigidly to the plan he laid down for himself. Nothing finds a place in his book which is not connected with weather. It is a model of clear and business-like arrangement, and so complete that we remember only a rhyme or two which are not found in it. This is one:—

If New Year's Eve the wind blows south,  
It betokeneth warmth and growth;  
If west, much milk, and fish in the sea;  
If north, much cold and storms there'll be;  
If east, the trees will bear much fruit;  
If north-east, flee it, man and brute.

This is from the North, as may be seen by the pronunciation of the word "growth." The next is a Southern saying:—

Till St. James's Day is come and gone  
You may have hops or you may have none.

In the North, too, it is said that if the sun shines on the altar on Candlemas Day there will be a second winter; in the South, that rain on Midsummer's eve destroys filberts. Mr. Inwards quotes a German saying that if St. Lawrence's Day be fine a fair autumn and good wine may be looked for; there is, however, a Basque saying, which he does not give, which tells us that "after St. Lawrence's Day rain comes one day and mildew the next."

The only faults we can find in this book are that

If Bartlemy's Day be fair and clear,  
Then hope for a prosperous autumn that year,  
Has been turned into

If the 24th of August be fair, &c.;

and that "Praise a fair day at even" appear as "A day should be praised at night."

In conclusion, we should like to utter one word of warning. Mr. Inwards, when acknowledging his obligations to other workers says, "The list [of weather proverbs] published by Mr. M. A. Denham for the Percy Society has yielded some not met with in any other place." They are not likely to be met with. Mr. Denham was a most worthy man, but so anxious to find folklore treasures that he accepted the shrewd sayings of his humble friends as such, and, against much sound advice, printed them.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*In an Alpine Valley.* By G. Manville Fenn. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

A MEMBER of the Government, at the immature age of thirty-six—Lord Desborough is a white-haired man of thirty-eight when we are introduced to him in Downing Street—wrote a couple of highly indiscreet letters to an Indian princess, who had come over to England on business affecting the interests of the state. The princess demands reparation; the letters are in the hands of Col. Denton, formerly Resident of Villipore, who supports her claim, and threatens the minister with exposure. Lord Desborough sends for his confidential adviser, a middle-aged solicitor in active practice, who, on a promise of two thousand pounds, consents without demur to track the colonel, as a private detective, and rob him of the letters! On this basis Mr. Manville Fenn has compiled three volumes of adventures "in an Alpine valley," adventures which vary between a kicking mule and an avalanche, and include an attempted murder by some one who unquestionably ought to have known better. Mr. Fenn knows how to amuse, and he carries his readers along with him to his triumphant finish. Whether the triumph is reserved for the lord or for the princess, for the solicitor or for young Adam Deane, who are both desperately in love with the colonel's daughter, the reader must find out for himself.

*This Troublesome World.* By the Authors of 'The Medicine Lady.' 3 vols. (Arnold.)

MR. FENN is a survival: the three-volume novel of the purely sensational type, characterized by violent death, criminal prosecution, brisk detective business, and no character drawing to speak of, is not so common as once it was. 'This Troublesome World' contains a fair proportion of exciting elements; yet the actors in the sensational drama are not mere puppets. The not easily provoked and long-suffering reader of fiction will find, especially in the first volume, plenty of fresh incident and human nature. The book opens with a picture of the cheerful and prosperous country house of Clint. It contrasts well with the gloomy house in East London, and the fallen fortunes of the wronged and wretched Langton, his courageous and beautiful daughter, and the old servant Hepsibah. "Alike unknowing and unknown," the fates of the families become inextricably and dramatically intertwined. As it is not our method to give a story away more than can be helped, we need say little

of the strength or weakness of this particular plot. It is generally more easy to pick holes in plots than to make them, and the construction and action of this one are in many respects good, though the scenes in court are not always quite convincing. Claudia is an ideal specimen of the womanly woman, a type which, strange to say, is not easily kept on human and natural lines; her father, an instance of a warped and weakened moral nature, is in places well conceived and carried out. If at times Claudia as heroine and Gilmour as hero transcend every-day probability, it must be remembered that they are supposed to be of heroic fibre. When such conceptions are fine and strong enough one is not inclined to quarrel with them. Their nobility and steadfastness are excessive; yet the authors have managed to preserve in them an air of simplicity and naturalness. The faults of length and monotony, more or less inseparable from three-volume form, would have been less evident but for the fact that the three most dramatic and crucial situations turn on three vows of self-sacrifice—two of a somewhat unreasoning kind—taken by three different people. A less obvious way of sustaining the wrought-up condition of affairs would have been more satisfying. The ultimate salvation of the heroine is also compassed by means of another vow—this time a broken one. Taking one thing with another, however, the authors of 'The Medicine Lady' have succeeded in writing a novel of emotions and excitement.

*A Woman of Forty.* By Esmè Stuart. 2 vols. (Methuen & Co.)

MAGDALEN CUTHBERT, the central figure of Miss Stuart's clever romance, is an eminently complex character, to quote the author's own phrase, in whom the conflicting tendencies of modern life are welded into a whole which, if not exactly harmonious, is at once human and attractive. And an admirable foil to her is provided in the innocent and unselfish Griselda. But Miss Stuart's men are far less convincing. It is well-nigh impossible to conceive the shadowy Percy Chester as having been guilty of the act of desertion on which the story hinges, while the treachery of Brice Leslie to his guileless sweetheart is even more incomprehensible in a man of such strength and straightforwardness of character as he is represented to possess. With these deductions, the story marches logically and consistently to its pathetic close.

*Montezuma's Daughter.* By H. Rider Haggard. (Longmans & Co.)

MR. RIDER HAGGARD's novels are never really dull, but the interest which they excite in us varies in degree. 'King Solomon's Mines' is, to our thinking, the most thrilling, though 'Jess' is for many reasons a greater work. Not even 'She' eclipsed the glories of the mine-legend, for that has its dull passages. But the public has now for some time been acclimatized, so to speak, to Mr. Haggard's methods: it can take things more calmly, it is less harrowed, its excitement is less, for it knows pretty well how things are likely to turn. 'Montezuma's Daughter' is as pretty a tale of adventure as it can wish to

have. The bold English rover, the savage tribes he encounters, the beautiful princess whom he weds—all these we know, but there is more. For Thomas Wingfield, before ever he thought of crossing to the Spanish Main, was involved in a dark and hideous mystery, and sought by land and sea for his enemy, the enemy of his race, the treacherous Spaniard, Don Juan de Garcia. And with the fortunes of these shadowy folk are entangled the struggles and the fall of a great empire and the fate of its conqueror. The illustrations are, perhaps, the least successful part of the book: the picture of the last terrible fight of the villain, when he strove with nothingness and went down alive into the pit, is both hideous and grotesque.

*Dream Life and Real Life: a Little African Story.* By Ralph Iron. "Pseudonym Library." (Fisher Unwin.)

THE first story in Miss Schreiner's tiny new book, the little African story called 'Dream Life and Real Life,' was printed more than ten years ago in the magazine of her brother's school at Eastbourne, where it appeared, oddly enough, in company with the cramped compositions of boys making their first attempt to apply the rules of grammar. It belongs to the period of 'The Story of an African Farm,' and is written in the same crisp, sensitive, concise prose, deliberately and effectively childlike in quality, like the narrative of a child of genius. The story of little Jannita is very brief, very simple, very pathetic, with just that acute, subtly suggested pathos which distinguishes the finest parts of the 'African Farm.' The second story, 'The Woman's Rose,' is so slight as to be scarcely more than the noting of a single sensation; it was written more recently, and is somewhat in the style of 'Dreams.' Again, there is a touch of unusual, unaccountable pathos, with the same artistic reticence, and a certain symbolism (after the manner of the allegories in 'Dreams') as well. The third story, 'The Policy in Favour of Protection,' was written last year. It is the least interesting of the three, and the most definitely moralizing. Rather, it is the statement of a problem, the unsolved problem of self-sacrifice, with its possible failure, its possible actual unkindness, for all the magnanimity that has prompted it to such disastrous issues. These three little stories make up the smallest of conceivable books, scarcely more than a pamphlet. Is it ungrateful to complain of so scanty a supply from so rich a soil—to ask for more? There is nothing here that is not good, nothing that has not a peculiar quality of excellence which we can get from no other writer. But, if rumours are true, Miss Schreiner has another novel actually finished. Why are we kept waiting so long for the new novel?

*The Shadow of a Song.* By Cecil Harley. (Cassell & Co.)

THE rogue who uses the charms of his sister as a means of luring human pigeons into his net has figured before now in fiction and on the stage; but it has been reserved for Mr. Cecil Harley to assign him a new and original setting. He introduces his readers to

a decidedly attractive modern version of the Siren and the Belle Dame sans Merci combined, who, by the joint aid of song and hypnotism, wins an easy victory over the dreamy hero, only to find herself inextricably caught in the toils of her own weaving. It is a pretty and a fantastical plot, though the working of it out is not equal to the conception, while the alternation of rhapsody and chaffing dialogue has a somewhat jarring effect. Still the chaff is good of its sort, and the interview between the hero when in prison and his delightfully optimistic uncle is an excellent bit of comedy. Miss Schreiner's 'Story of an African Farm,' to which allusion is made more than once in the course of these pages, has evidently influenced Mr. Harley strongly. And we have the less hesitation in cautioning him against imitating the mannerisms of that gifted writer in that he has a manner, and a decidedly agreeable manner, of his own.

*The Old House of Rayner.* By Grimley Hill. (Digby, Long & Co.)

'THE OLD HOUSE OF RAYNER' and 'How to Read in "the Long"' are a couple of slight stories which make up a well-printed, easily read volume. 'The Old House'—the better of the two—is a weird tale, all about an old house and an animated corpse, with a sudden and abrupt ending. 'How to Read' is of another stamp, being the harmless history of a summer episode and the love affairs of a quartet of young folks, who make a good end—matrimonially speaking. This is a volume that might meet the requirements of a brief journey; and when we have said so much all is, or seems to be, said.

*The Petrie Estate.* By Helen D. Brown. (Osgood, McIlvaine & Co.)

THIS is a fairly commonplace story about a lost will, which is eventually discovered, without any evil consequences to the heroine, who loses the property only to gain the hero who acquires it. The heroine deserves her wealth, as she employs it in improving the slums of New York on the most approved C.O.S. principles, and, what is more remarkable in a novel, she does not lose her charm by so doing. It is a short story; but even so there are several irrelevant characters who might well be spared. The chief merit of the book—which comes rather as a surprise at the end, as the story is throughout told in a somewhat dull, unemotional style—is a really excellent love scene. The author seems distinctly to realize the immensity of true love, and quite rises to the occasion: "There seemed all at once no necessity about anything. They were suddenly in possession of all time, or, rather, they were transferred to new space, where time was not, duty was not, words were not." This is truly and excellently expressed.

#### CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

*Fairy Tales from the Arabian Nights*, edited by E. Dixon (Dent), is a selection from 'The Arabian Nights'—a very small selection, but several of the stories which are special favourites of children are included in it. Their length is somewhat curtailed, and they are designed *virginibus puerisque*. What principally distinguishes this selection from others, however, is that it has the benefit of Mr. J. D. Batten's illustrations, which combine excellent figure



drawing with a strong feeling for landscape. Danhasch carrying off the Princess Badoura is a typical example of Mr. Batten's art. Danhasch's grotesqueness and strength are magnificently given, so too is the care with which he carries his lovely burden. There is an effective background of black sky and cold stars, and a moon which we are grateful to Mr. Batten for making rather too large, for it would not otherwise have enabled us to see that very good bit of landscape. How good, too, is the illustration to 'The White Bird'! Mr. Batten's princesses are beautiful and his monsters are appalling.

In *Chinese Nights' Entertainments*, by Adèle M. Fielde (Putnam's Sons), the reader will find that rarity, a collection of stories with some pretensions to novelty. These have been "heard or overheard" by Mrs. Fielde "when travelling in a slow native boat, or sitting in a dim native hut, with almond-eyed women and children in the eastern corner of the Kwangtung province, in Southern China," and are valuable both as a contribution to folk-lore and for the glimpses they afford of Chinese manners and customs. The thread of story on which the forty stories proper are strung is very slight. No thread, indeed, is needed, but to part with it would be to lose much that helps to bring this far-away people vividly before our eyes. Most of the stories are supposed to be told at a boys' school in the evening, a light supper of parched rice, water-melon seeds, and clear tea being provided. All the stories are good and well told. Several are very like some that are in Grimm's 'Kinder- und Hausmärchen.' So the vexed question of independent origin or transmission is not unlikely to crop up again. 'The Origin of Ants' recalls 'Dr. Knowall,' 'The Fool of the Family,' 'Clever Hans,' and others. 'The Man in the Shell' is like 'Hans the Hedgehog' and also 'The Donkey,' but the end of 'The Man in the Shell' seems to have a more antique form than in the German stories. In the latter the skins when abstracted are burnt—in one case by the advice of the wearer—after which the hitherto enchanted man or prince retains the human form for the rest of his natural life. In the Chinese version the shell from which the hero of the story has been delivered was not destroyed, but hid away in a safe place by the bride's grandmother, and one day in its former wearer's absence the old woman brought it out to air. Of course he came home unexpectedly, "saw, recognized, and took possession of his shell, and at once crawled off in it to the sea, from which he never returned." This is what always comes to pass when a happily married mermaid chances to find the skin she wore when she lived in the sea. Husband, children, and home are then instantly forgotten, and with one plunge she is gone for ever. 'The Fair Serpent' is a delightful version of 'Beauty and the Beast.' The only regret that we feel about this book is that so many of the Chinese names have been turned into English.

It takes seven writers, and all of them good, to tell the tale of *Seven Christmas Eves* (Hutchinson & Co.), which deals with the fortunes of two fond and faithful lovers. We find them in the slums and follow them very far afield, even to a convict settlement. For the course of true love runs by no means smooth; slander and false witness work dire mishap, and it is not till the fifth writer takes up her pen that the luck turns. Mr. Graves, Mr. B. L. Farjeon, Miss Florence Marryat, Mr. G. Manville Fenn, Mrs. Campbell Praed, Mr. Justin Huntly McCarthy, and Mr. Clement Scott are the joint authors of this seasonable tale.

Mr. Grant Allen's new story of *Michael's Crag* (The Leadenhall Press) is a marvellous production, for it contains no fewer than three hundred and fifty marginal illustrations in

silhouette. The effect is more curious than pleasing, and we hope that the fashion will not spread. The tale itself is good enough. The hero is one Walter Tyrrel (descended from the ill-fated Sir Walter), and "they say every Walter Tyrrel that's born into the world is bound, sooner or later, to kill his man unintentional." It is almost a matter of course that the modern Walter's victim should be young Michael Trevennach, the brother of the girl he loves. This makes a fine plot, and the hidden madness of Michael Trevennach the elder adds a new zest to the old story.

Mr. David Ker's *Prisoner among Pirates* (Chambers) is a singularly good story, calculated to encourage what is noble and manly in boys.—As a general rule we are not partial to tales of bushrangers, for they are calculated to give an erroneous idea of the present state of Australia. However, *From the Bush to the Breakers*, by Mr. Frankfort Moore (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge), portrays them in their true colours, as low, unmitigated ruffians, not as disguised gentlemen of the Claude Duval type. It is well written. The scenery and several of the details of station life are cleverly described.

Three of the four stories contained in *The Heart of Montrose, and other Stories*, by Esther Carr (Fisher Unwin), have appeared in magazine form. All but one relate imaginary incidents in the lives of historical persons. The story of Princess "Phika," afterwards Catherine II. of Russia, is well conceived. The imperiousness that underlies a certain greatness of nature, unspoiled as yet by power and realized ambition, marks very naturally the childhood of moods and gusts that might prognosticate a stormy life. In her legend of Montrose, or rather of Elizabeth Erskine, Lady Napier, the author is a little too audacious in the matter of invention. The remaining tales are fairly told, and may have the effect of interesting girls in the byways of historical biography.

*The Flying Horse* (Griffith, Farran & Co.) is a popular account by Mr. Fifth of the locomotive engine and the railway. The history of the early days of railway construction is rather slightly, and indeed confusedly, treated. A better arrangement would have made the history a good deal clearer. A chapter is rightly devoted to railways in the United States.—Another volume of Mr. Fifth's, *The Romance of Navigation* (Ward, Lock & Bowden), will probably prove more attractive to boys. The illustrations in neither book are good.

The third volume of *Mothers in Council* (Wells Gardner, Darton & Co.), the official organ, so to speak, of the Mothers' Union, is full of good reading for mothers. Among many admirable papers we may note one by the Hon. and Rev. E. Lyttelton, who, writing on 'Religious Education,' clearly points out to mothers the enormous responsibility which rests, and needs must rest, on them.

Madame de Nanteuil in her *Alexandre Vorzof* (Hachette & Co.) has produced a book for young people even more interesting than is usual with her. It has for hero the famous Breton corsair of the great wars—Surcouf. There are a few trifling errors in Madame de Nanteuil's history (by which she strings together stirring episodes of naval warfare), such as "Malk" for Mack, and the introduction of the truncheon-bearing policeman of 1850 into the London of 1813. The illustrations are admirable.

#### ECCLIESIASTICAL HISTORY.

PROF. ADOLF HARNACK is now so well known as the first of living ecclesiastical historians that an adequate translation of any of his books would be sure of a welcome. His *Grundriss der Dogmengeschichte*, an outline of his great work on the history of dogma, has recently

been translated in America by Mr. Edwin Knox Mitchell, of Hartford Theological Seminary, and Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton have now issued it here. They are ill advised in doing so. A work of this character is not easy to translate, and the last thing that can be said of Mr. Mitchell's effort is that it is adequate. Prof. Harnack is a writer who is nothing if not clear and precise. In Mr. Mitchell's hands he becomes vague, bizarre, and sometimes unintelligible. A translation which frequently sends the reader to the original for a meaning has not much reason for its existence. Apart from absolute mistakes, it abounds in solecisms and infelicities of all kinds, some of them ludicrous. On p. 91, to take an instance almost at random, besides a typographical error in a Greek quotation, there is this extraordinary sentence: "Alongside of these stood the testimony of pneumatic scribbles, ever however having decreasing dignity." In the severe terminology of the schools "pneumatic" may, perhaps, pass for "spiritual," and "scribbles" is certainly a possible meaning of *Schriftstellerei*; but in a work intended for popular use it is inadvisable to court ridicule.

*What are Teinds? An Account of the History of Tithes in Scotland.* By William George Black. (Edinburgh, Green & Sons.)—Mr. Black, in his handy little volume on teinds, has treated a most complicated and, in some respects, obscure history with clearness and sound judgment. He traces the history of tithes from their first civil institution in the reign of Charlemagne, deals briefly with their adoption in England, and their transition thence, about the time of the Norman Conquest, into Scotland. But tithes were originally payable to the bishops, and only gradually became appropriated to the parochial clergy. Mr. Black has, therefore, to discuss some controverted points, both of law and of fact, regarding the origin and growth of parishes, the relations of the monasteries to their vicars, and the maintenance of the secular clergy generally. The confusion which existed in Scotland both before and after the Reformation, arising from the alienation of church lands by ecclesiastics and their appropriation by lay lords, renders the history of teinds in the sixteenth century one of peculiar difficulty. Mr. Black has the rare merit of perceiving how little the old Church was "disestablished" in 1560, and how, for long, the old organization went on side by side with the new. The suppression of monasteries, and the nominal abolition of the ancient hierarchy, proved anything but a financial benefit to the new clergy. In 1596 more than 400 parish kirks were destitute of ministers from want of funds to support them. Commissioners appointed to remedy the evils did next to nothing, and the laws which existed were disregarded. Parliament in 1617 appointed a commission with power to assign a perpetual stipend to ministers out of the teinds of every parish, and "it is really from this date," says Mr. Black, "that the maxim *decime debentur parochio*—the tithes belong to the parish—can be said to be recognized in Scotland. Theoretically it had been admitted for centuries, but as a matter of practice it had been little known during the subsistence of the Catholic Church, and was entirely ignored by the civil power from 1560." In his discussion of "Teinds at the Present Day" Mr. Black insists upon Lord President Inglis's dictum: "Teinds are not a burden upon lands: they are a separate estate." The volume concludes with an interesting and unusually impartial sketch of "The Survival of the Old Church."

*The Publications of the Surtees Society.—The Life of St. Cuthbert in English Verse, c. A.D. 1150.* From the Original MS. in the Library at Castle Howard. (Whittaker & Co.)—This life of St. Cuthbert is of no value from an historical point of view. It is a translation of

various books which have been already published. But it is exceedingly interesting as a specimen of Northern English of the fifteenth century. The Rev. J. T. Fowler has edited the book with great care. In his task he has been aided by Dr. Murray, and he has occasionally applied to other competent scholars for advice. It is evident that the editor gathered much information about Northern English as he went on with his task. The later parts of the book are better edited than the earlier, and the *index verborum* is more accurate than the notes. Considerable benefit might have been conferred by a discussion of the grammar, especially as Dr. Murray's early philological production on the dialect of the southern counties of Scotland might have helped him. There is also occasionally a change of plan as the work proceeds. Thus, on p. 2, Mr. Fowler says, "For any proper names not explained in the notes see preface." But he altered his plan, and at a subsequent stage discussed them in his notes. Hence it happens that on this very p. 2, where mention is made of an archbishop of St. Malachie, no information is given with regard to this saint. It is evident that the *libellus* from which the passage in the book is taken regarded St. Malachias as a person who lived in the reign of David, King of Scotland. The events of the life of this Irish saint are well known, and Mr. Fowler ought to have supplied a succinct account of them. And he should have stated whether he could discover any such place as St. Malachie, or whether he regards this as a blunder of the translator. Similar omissions occur, but they are few, and the editor has, on the whole, done his work well.

*Old Church Lore.* By William Andrews. (Hull, Andrews; London, Simpkin, Marshall & Co.)—Mr. Andrews's name has appeared on many title-pages. He is known both as an author and as a compiler. We are bound to say that all his works that we have seen hitherto have more than a mere transient value. Yet the habit of book-making is a dangerous one; it is so easy and seductive that it requires, when once it has been indulged in, great strength of will to refrain from the use of scissors and paste. We wish Mr. Andrews had taken more time when engaged in compiling his 'Church Lore.' He has chosen a good subject. Little has hitherto been done in this direction, and what we have is, for the most part, about as dull reading as the 'Clergy List.' As, however, materials are so plentiful it is the more provoking to find so little in Mr. Andrews's book which we have not seen before. The very first paper on the right of sanctuary might have been expanded into an interesting volume; there is hardly a mediæval chronicle, English or foreign, which does not contain passages that might have been laid under contribution. This has not been done. We can trace the influence of Samuel Pegge, M. de Mazzinghi, and an early Surtees volume in his pages, and little if anything else. By far the best paper in Mr. Andrews's miscellany is the one in which he treats of "The Old English Sunday." It is brightly written and shows considerable research. The observance of Sunday has been a matter of controversy ever since the Reformation, and long before that there were what would now be called two antagonistic schools of thought on the subject. In 1201 a certain Eustace, Abbot of Flay, held strict Sabbatarian notions, and preached them in the province of York; in support of his claims to a patient hearing he produced a letter which he declared had come down from heaven at Jerusalem, on the altar of St. Symeon "quod est in Golgotha ubi Christus crucifixus est pro peccatis mundi." What Eustace's contemporaries thought of this extravagant fiction we do not know, but Roger of Hoveden, who was by no means remarkable for credulity, considered it of sufficient importance to have a place in his chronicle. As a matter of course miracles fol-

lowed. A mill worked on Sunday yielded blood instead of flour, bread put into a heated oven would not bake, and divers persons who worked on the Lord's day were stricken with paralysis. The abbot's preaching does not seem to have had any lasting effect. There is hardly one of the reformers whose writings have come down to us who does not denounce Sabbath-breaking as one of the chief sins of the age. Notwithstanding this we find that long after the Reformation it was the custom to hold parish meetings on Sundays. If we were to judge by Acts of Parliament and ordinances, we should be compelled to believe that during the Commonwealth the Sabbath was observed with exemplary strictness; yet a good deal of evidence exists which goes to prove that the laws in this as in several other matters pertaining to religion were but laxly administered. Wesley and the early Methodists complain of the violation of the Sabbath in language almost identical with that of two centuries before. Even in this century, down to the time that cock-fighting became an illegal sport, it is said to have been usually indulged in on Sundays. We cannot conclude without a word of praise of the paper on coffins. We do not think there is anything in it which is new to the antiquarian student, but it is a subject on which a great amount of ignorance exists. When you tell people that in the days of the Stuarts coffins were seldom used in rural places except by the rich, you are stared at in blank surprise or treated as a retailer of fables. Those who read Mr. Andrews's book will find some interesting facts bearing on this matter.

*The Church in Italy.* By A. R. Pennington. (Wells Gardner, Darton & Co.)—Canon Pennington's English is disgracefully slipshod, but he has made an honest attempt to write a satisfactory history. Of course in a volume of fewer than five hundred pages, dealing with the history of eighteen centuries, the omissions must necessarily be many and significant; but the great defect of the work is that the writer views everything from the standpoint of a respectable country clergyman, and fails to see that no Italian of any age or period ever regarded Christianity or religion from the Anglican point of view. He quotes among his authorities the Bishop of Peterborough's 'History of the Papacy': it is a pity he has not imbibed a little of that accomplished writer's spirit.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

A WORK of which the whole United Kingdom should be proud is the tenth edition of *Law and Usage of Parliament*, published by Messrs. Clowes & Sons. Sir Erskine May was cut off by death before he was able to rewrite his great book, for something more than mere revision was needed in order to keep pace with the revolution in parliamentary procedure which has been effected since 1882. Sir Reginald Palgrave has proved worthy of the confidence reposed in him by his predecessor. The difficulty of furnishing an intelligible account of the interpretation of the modern rules and of the usages based on this interpretation is immense, and the able writers in Canada and South Australia who have previously attempted the task have succeeded only in producing works known at the table of the Imperial House of Commons as "the apocrypha." The present form of the treatise is Sir Reginald Palgrave's own; it is a monument of his labour and of his skill, and will be as useful to students in the British, American, and colonial universities as to the members of all Parliaments in the British Empire. Every library that has held the ninth edition must now replace it by the tenth, which is virtually a new work, absolutely called for by changes which have converted the ninth edition into ancient history, and especially by those of 1888, which have transformed the standing orders of

the House of Commons more completely than they had been altered by all the changes which had previously taken place since the birth of Parliament. The proceedings now pending in the House of Commons in the Committee on the Local Government (England and Wales) Bill impart a special interest to Sir R. Palgrave's comments on that part of Standing Order No. 25 which states that "a motion may be made..... That the question, That certain words of the clause defined in the motion stand part of the clause.....be.....put forthwith, and decided without amendment or debate." This course was followed in 1891 and 1892, and will doubtless again be taken by the Committee of the whole House if the debate on minute detail of clauses continues to be as prolonged as has recently been the case. The ingenuity of opposition is, however, always great, and, whatever procedure may be adopted, doubtless many weeks will pass before the Lords return the Bill with the note "A cette balle avesque des amendemens les seigneurs sont assensus," to receive it back again with the corresponding note "A ces amendemens les communes sont assensus." The careful reader of the political paragraphs of the daily press will smile when he reads the reprint in the present edition of the denunciation by a former Speaker, "as irregular, and an evasion of the rules of the House," of the "combination by several members to give notice of the same motion." The public were informed at the beginning of February of the present year that not fewer than one hundred and fifty members had put down their names with the view that the six most successful in the ballot should give notice of six motions which the same one hundred and fifty members had selected and placed in order of preference at a meeting held, by leave of the Speaker, within the precincts of the House itself.

SOME seven or eight years ago, noticing a collection of ethical conversations by Vernon Lee, we expressed some fear lest the author should be led on by too much fluency to become voluminous and diffuse. That she has avoided the danger is manifest from the interval which has elapsed between the appearance of 'Baldwin: being Dialogues on Views and Aspirations' and that of *Althea: a Second Book of Dialogues on Aspirations and Duties* (Osgood, McIlvaine & Co.). To such as read the former volume this variation of the title will go far to explain the development of Vernon Lee's method and mental attitude. The old Baldwin, she tells us, in a not very perspicuous preface, has "departed this vague life of reality.....to reappear in the clear, solid existence of imaginary beings." He takes a large part in the new dialogues, and talks about as pedantically as ever; he is less viewy and perhaps less cocksure; but he has read more Plato in the last seven years, and his notions of life and duty are a little more constructive. We can hardly say that he is any better clothed with flesh and blood, but he is a trifle less infallible and unassailable. He can be touched by the Sunday worship of poor Scots fishermen, by the glamour of an indifferent rendering of Gluck's 'Orpheus,' by odds and ends at the Vatican which had palled upon his taste, by the vigorous personality of the young Althea, whom he coaches in philosophy to a goal beyond his own, and by sundry human graces and feeblenesses which in other days would have found and left him impassive. In his company we meet the Anglo-Italian Carlo again, now an inconsistent decadent; and we hear a little more of Dorothy, and fall more or less into a sense of elective affinity with Donna Maria and Signora Elena, and stare a little with amusement at the donna's Russian cousin Boris, who voices the author's protest against the cruder Socialism, as Baldwin voices her rapid tendency towards a sort of ascetic Epicureanism and sterile philanthropy. But Althea is the central figure of these Platonic diversions: an



ingenuous clairvoyante, one of those rare natures "who, never making many claims for themselves, never go through the disappointment which underlies most *Weltschmerz*; natures which know spontaneously what the rest of us learn by experience and reflection; fortunate samples of what we may perhaps all become." An impossible she—or at any rate too bright and good for the daily needs of human nature—who proves to her satisfaction that a single and monopolizing human love is mere selfishness, incompatible with the love of God, "separate, different, if not a rival." Poor humanity, if this is a saving grace! But 'Althea' is a book of grand ideals, and idealists will find it to their minds.

MR. OSCAR BROWNING has written for the new evening continuation classes a better book on *The Citizen* (Blackie & Son) than the two similar little works which we have recently noticed. Mr. Browning is so accomplished and well read an authority on this subject that he gives an interesting and an intelligible account of the rights and responsibilities of the Englishman (there is not much about Scotland or Ireland, or indeed Wales, in the volume) in which we have found no error. In a few passages the extreme condensation necessary in such a work causes a slight appearance of inaccuracy. For instance, it is suggested that the minister and parishioners in vestry first try to agree on both churchwardens, and that, failing agreement, one is nominated by the incumbent, and the other elected by the vestry. The almost universal custom, which has come to have the force of law, is that the clergyman begins by nominating one, and that the other is then chosen by the vestry. In, we believe, 109 out of 110 parishes in the city of London, and in a few other parishes, the people by custom elect both wardens; and there is one parish in Yorkshire, one in the south of England, and possibly some other parishes, in which, by custom, the incumbent nominates both. Mr. Browning says rightly that in every civil parish there are "one or more overseers of the poor." But some doubt might be thrown upon his general reference to ecclesiastical parishes in this connexion. The overseers of a civil parish are so very generally two in number that the cases of one and four might almost be neglected. Where there is only one, he is not necessarily "unpaid," but may be chosen from outside the (in this case "small") parish and may be paid. Not only are the counties which Mr. Browning names divided for some purposes, but Sussex also, if we mistake not, might be added to his list of divided counties. A hasty reader might imagine from other words of Mr. Browning's that the County Councils have taken over generally the management of roads, whereas in most cases they deal only with main roads. It is not probable, as suggested by Mr. Browning, that "at no distant date every parish will have its Council," as many parishes are so very small that it is hardly likely that Parish Councils will be given to many of those with fewer than two hundred souls, which are in some counties extremely numerous. The list of franchises given by Mr. Browning is perhaps either too full or not sufficiently complete; that is, it seems to be, without being, an exhaustive list. In addition to the 40s. freehold, and the free-man, and the 10l. occupation, and the 5l. copyhold, and the dwelling-house franchise, and the lodger franchise, there are, of course, the 5l. leasehold over sixty years, and the 50l. leasehold between twenty and sixty years, and the service franchise, without going into the question of the joint-occupation franchises. In the glossary the Speaker's mace is mentioned under the heading "Mace" almost as though it were the only such emblem of dignity. But Mr. Browning, of course, is well acquainted with the maces of the universities, irreverently called "pokers," and is no doubt aware that deans,

many mayors, and even some chairmen of London vestries are provided each of them with one mace, and some of them with two.

MESSRS. BLACK publish *Labour and the Popular Welfare*, by Mr. W. H. Mallock, a work which deals somewhat more generally with large branches of political economy than the prominence given to the word "Labour" in the title would lead the reader to expect. The book is pleasantly written, but there is not much in it which is both new and valuable. The short preface, however, we can unreservedly commend. In it Mr. Mallock points out the extent to which the general rules of political economy are more and more found, day by day,

"fringed with exceptions and modifications; and that instances are never far to seek which seem to prove the reverse of what the general rule states, or to make the statement of it appear inaccurate. But such general rules need be none the less true for this; nor for practical purposes any the less safe to reason from. They resemble, in fact, these general truths with regard to the seasons, which we do and must reason from, even in so uncertain a climate as our own. It is, for instance, a truth from which we all reason, that summer is dryer and warmer than winter; and yet there is a frequent occurrence of individual days, which, taken by themselves, contradict it. So, too, those economic definitions, the subjects of which are human actions or faculties, can be entirely accurate only in the majority of cases to which they apply; and these cases will be fringed always by a margin of doubtful ones. But the definitions, for all that, need be none the less practically true. Day and night are fringed with doubtful hours of twilight; but our clear knowledge of how midnight differs from noon is not made less clear by our doubts as to whether a certain hour at sunrise ought to be called an hour of night or morning. It is especially desirable to prefix this warning to a work as short as the present. In larger and more elaborate works, the writer can particularize the more important exceptions and modifications to which his rules and definitions are subject. But in a short work this task must be left to the common sense of the reader. For popular purposes, however, brevity of statement has one great advantage, namely, that of clearness; and, as the significance of the exceptions cannot be understood without the rules, it is almost essential first to state the rules without obscuring them by the exceptions. There are few readers probably who will not see that the general propositions and principles laid down in the following pages, require, in order to fit them to certain cases, various additions and qualifications. It is necessary only for the reader to bear in mind that these propositions need be none the less broadly and vitally true, because any succinct statement of them is unavoidably incomplete."

Mr. Mallock's last two chapters have most tantalizing titles, for one of them professes to describe for us the extent and limitation of the power of trade unionism in increasing the income of labour, and the last the connexion between the interests of the labourer and imperial politics. When we come carefully to read them, however, we find little in them which is of much value. What there is, however, is, generally speaking, in accordance with the orthodox or received views of the economists of the day.

*The Romance of an Empress: Catherine II. of Russia* (in two volumes), published by Mr. William Heinemann, is a translation from the French of M. Waliszewski's book already reviewed by us. The translation is readable, and appears to be well executed.

*An Embassy to Provence*, by Mr. Thomas Janvier (Fisher Unwin), appears to be an American book, not only from the nationality of the author, but also from the spelling of the text, which has "envelop" for *envelope*, and similar novelties. The little volume describes a visit—not very recent, we imagine—by an American gentleman and his wife to the Provençal poets in their homes, and it is not a satisfactory production. There is no real attempt made to estimate the respective positions, for example, of Aubanel and of Roumanille, and it is a pity that no one has yet, so far as we know, undertaken to give the world a satisfactory account

of the place in literature of either of these great modern poets. As the author tells us a good deal by way of personal gossip about Roumanille and his home and his family, it is to be regretted that he has not quoted the exquisite little poem in which Roumanille described his birth and life:—

The son of a gardener and of a gardener's wife,  
In a garden I was born and lived.....

which was recited by the old man, in the presence of many of his brother poets, as he lay dying in his cottage behind his bookshop, with his flowers round him.

MR. ROBERT GRANT'S book, *The Opinions of a Philosopher* (Warne & Co.), is altogether delightful. It contains the musings of a respectable American citizen on the little incidents of every-day life: on going to church, on a football match wherein his son takes part, on changing house, on marrying his daughters, and on standing for Congress. The author claims to be a philosopher, and though attached to no particular school of philosophy, he is sufficiently apt at seizing on the joys of life, and even at turning its troubles to good account, fully to justify his claim to the title in its popular acceptance. The tone of optimism and happy contentment, which gives its chief charm to the book, is not of that unsatisfactory kind that depends simply on material prosperity, but springs from the conviction that most of the troubles and difficulties of life become blessings if treated with good humour. The philosopher shows plenty of keen observation of character, and the good-natured satire on various types of American life is not the least attractive feature in his musings. It will not be amiss to allow the author to speak for himself. Here is a passage in which the ideals of his childhood are contrasted with those of to-day:—

"In this injunction, 'to hitch one's waggon to a star,' lay, perhaps, the gist of the whole matter. To hitch one's waggon to a star was to be, primarily, a plain person, to go in for truth, patriotism, fineness of soul, long hours of labour, little exercise and no vacations, pies and doughnuts, ugliness of physical surroundings and squeaky feminine voices. Public opinion justified making all the money one could, provided it was not spent in rendering life ornate or beautiful. So lived our fathers and mothers, our upright, vigorous, single-minded, ascetic predecessors; and in our day their precepts were still held in reverence. Yet even then there were indications of a change. The newly created species took it into her head to look around her, especially in summer, first by itineraries along the rock-bound coast of her native land, and later by amazon-like pilgrimages abroad. She invented Bar Harbour, and while electrified Europe held its breath perambulated Paris alone and climbed Mont Blanc with a single man. She also made the pertinent discovery that her popper's purse was pudgy with the proceeds of wheat, corn, dry goods, and railway shares. Though she still urged the successive youths who strolled and sat under her Japanese sunshade to hitch their waggons to heavenly bodies, she gave it sweetly, and little by little to be understood that chastity among women and high resolve among men need not preclude more picturesque paraphernalia and a broader field of investigation. She bought French clothes; her brothers took the hint from her, and hid them to Paris and Vienna to pursue their studies; penetrated to Pekin and Constantinople, and hunted the tiger in the jungles of India, while popper's pudgy purse grew more and more plethoric despite the drafts upon it. Purification by pie waned, and the first Queen Anne cottage reared its head."

The sentiment of this, of course, is nothing new—it is as old as Aristophanes at least; still, it is well put, and not ungenerously for an old man speaking of youth.

*Three Empresses: Josephine, Marie-Louise, Eugénie*, by Caroline Gearey, published by Messrs. Digby, Long & Co., is not very valuable. The author, as she says, endeavours "to disarm criticism by drawing attention to the fact that no attempt has been made to write for students, but rather to interest readers in general by a careful compilation." But the author has to stand comparison, as regards the general public, in the lives of Josephine and of Marie Louise,

with a prolific French writer whose works are translated as they appear, and who has dealt very fully with the lives of both these empresses. As regards the third of the empresses now before us in the present volume, there is not enough in the nature of memoirs to make the chapter upon her anything but mere newspaper gossip.

ONE of the best books on horses and their riders with which we have met is an American work written by Col. Dodge, published under the title of *Riders of Many Lands* by Messrs. Osgood, McIlvaine & Co., and beautifully illustrated. Every reader who collects works on the horse should vary the monotony of his English and French volumes by the introduction of this one from across the Atlantic.

If Mr. Murray Gilchrist's *Frangipanni*—the initial volume (issued by the Moray Press) of the neat little library that calls itself "The Regent"—is meant for a joke or a skit on anything, it is a poor joke and a bad hit. But we do not think either alternative will apply, and we can only hope future volumes of this pretty and convenient series will differ from 'Frangipanni' in every respect but the outside.

We note the appearance (through the house of Hachette) of *Études Historiques et Diplomatiques*, by M. Francis Charmes, a reprint of the admirable articles contributed to the *Débats* by this well-known writer. The selected essays are mostly on modern history or modern personages—on Weiss, on John Lemoine, on Renan, on the *Journal des Débats* itself, on the Luxembourg question, on French policy in 1866 and the policy of Italy in 1870, on the Rémusat, on Talleyrand, Napoleon, and Alexander, and on the French Revolution; but there are also essays on Abélard, Aristophanes, Roman history, and a few other topics of the kind—the whole of them in the style which may be looked for from the pen of M. Charmes. The essays are too well known to those who specially concern themselves with French criticism for us to deal more at length with their republication.

To the "Memorial Edition" of the works of Sir Richard Burton is now added *Vikram the Vampire*; or, *Tales of Hindu Devilry* (Tylston & Edwards), which was originally issued with little success in 1870. Lady Burton says in her preface that "the following translation is rendered peculiarly valuable and interesting by Sir Richard Burton's intimate knowledge of the language." We never heard that Burton was celebrated for Sanskrit learning, and to do him justice he never pretended that 'Vikram' was a translation. It is a paraphrase, of course, and not a very successful one. Burton had a heavy hand, and his humour was rather of the battering-ram order. However, Lady Burton says "there is not a dull page in it," and every one knows that nobody else is entitled to an opinion on the works of the deceased. We may, perhaps, be permitted to hazard the hypothesis that M. Ernest Griset's blood-curdling illustrations of vampires and their friends are wholly un-Oriental.

We have received a number of Bibles of singular merit. Mr. Frowde has sent us several specimens of his skill and taste in the way of Bible making: beautiful copies on India paper of the *Oxford Bible for Teachers*, the Revised Version, charmingly bound and accompanied by the admirable 'Helps to the Study of the Bible' issued by the Clarendon Press; and the Authorized Version similarly accompanied. Nothing could well be better in type, paper, or binding, the latter being wonderfully flexible, and as soft as a lady's glove. Mr. Frowde also sends us an Oxford edition of *Longfellow's Complete Poetical Works*, one on ordinary thick paper and one on his beautiful India paper, and also a miniature edition in six dainty 32mo. volumes,

enclosed in a case. While we much admire these specimens of the skill of the printer and paper-maker, we cannot help feeling that the Clarendon Press might have chosen a poet of a higher stamp than the amiable American they have honoured.—Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode send us a new issue of the *Variorum Teachers' Bible*, which has the great advantage over most Bibles of being complete, as it contains the Apocrypha. The same firm have sent us three delightful copies of the *Book of Common Prayer and Hymns Ancient and Modern* bound up together, or similarly bound and united in a charming leather case.—The Cambridge Press has sent us the *Cambridge Companion to the Bible*, printed in good clear long primer. The former editions of this valuable encyclopedia were printed in a smaller type than middle-aged eyes care to decipher.

THE approach of the new year is indicated by the appearance of the new edition of *The Post Office London Directory* (Kelly & Co.), which is always punctual in its arrival, and always carefully corrected up to date. No book of reference is more thoroughly trustworthy. We observe that Messrs. Kelly have not adopted the new name Atterbury Street, devised by the County Council for Great and Little Queen Streets. The change seems reasonable, but it has provoked resistance, and Messrs. Kelly are waiting to see if it will be enforced.

BOOKSELLERS' catalogues, especially those of country booksellers, are accumulating rapidly. We have to acknowledge the arrival of those of Messrs. Bailey Bros., Mr. Dorman (fair), Messrs. Dulau & Co. (zoology), Mr. Edwards (three catalogues), Messrs. Ellis & Elvey (most valuable), Mr. Galwey (good), Messrs. George & Son (two catalogues), Mr. Glaisher, Messrs. Gowans & Son, Mr. Higham (two theological catalogues and one miscellaneous), Mr. Jeffery, Mr. Maggs (two catalogues), Messrs. Maurice & Co., Mr. May, Mr. Nutt (theology, also one of works relating to Africa, Asia, America, and Australia), Messrs. Parsons & Sons (fine art), Messrs. Pearson & Co. (valuable), Messrs. Rimell (dramatic), Messrs. Sotheman (excellent), Mr. Spencer (good), and Messrs. Wesley & Son (scientific periodicals, &c.). We have also received the catalogues of Mr. Ball of Barton-on-Humber (fair), Mr. Cleaver, Messrs. B. & J. F. Meehan, and Messrs. G. & F. Pickering of Bath, Mr. Hockliffe of Bedford, Mr. Downing, Mr. Lowe, Mr. Thistlewood, and Mr. Wilson of Birmingham, Messrs. Matthews & Brooke of Bradford (catalogue in two parts of the library of the late Mr. Briggs of Rawdon Hall), Mr. Wild of Burnley, Messrs. Macmillan & Bowes of Cambridge (good), Mr. Murray of Derby, Mr. Johnston of Edinburgh (good), Mr. Commin of Exeter, Mr. Howell (interesting) and Messrs. Young & Sons (two good catalogues) of Liverpool, Messrs. Pitcher & Co. of Manchester (their first catalogue), Messrs. Hiscock & Son and Mr. Ward (good catalogue of engravings) of Richmond, Surrey, and Mr. Pollard of Truro. Besides these we have received from abroad sundry excellent catalogues: among them a good catalogue of English books from M. Nijhof of the Hague, and a still better one of early printed books, &c., from the same famous bookseller; a miscellaneous catalogue from MM. van Stockum & Fils of the Hague; and a good catalogue of rarities, especially of Elzevirs, from M. Brill of Leyden. M. Lechevallier of Paris forwards one of books relating to French provincial history. M. Lissa of Berlin, and M. Rosenthal of Munich, have also issued interesting catalogues.

We have on our table *The Beginner's Greek Composition*, by W. C. Collar and M. G. Daniell (Boston, U.S., Ginn),—*A Third French Reader and Writer*, by L. Barbé (Sonnenschein),—*The Waterloo Reader, Standard I.*, by B. Balchin (W. H. Allen),—*Cornell Studies in Classical Philology: No. IV., The Athenian Constitution*,

by G. W. Botsford (Boston, U.S., Ginn),—*Everybody's Letter-Writer*, by Penholder (Saxon),—*More about Names*, by L. Wagner (Fisher Unwin),—*Ladies at Work, Papers on Paid Employments for Ladies*, with an Introduction by Lady Jeune (Innes),—*Fast-Day Cookery; or, Meals without Meat*, by G. Johnson (Griffith & Farran),—*The Art of Horsemanship*, by Xenophon, translated by M. H. Morgan (Boston, U.S., Little, Brown & Co.),—*Good Words, 1893, and Sunday Magazine, 1893* (Isbister),—*Fireside, 1893* ('Home Words' Office),—*My Mother's Predicament*, by J. Bulmer (Washbourne),—*The Poems of Leopardi*, translated from the Italian by F. H. Cliffe (Remington),—*Shakespeare's Play of King Henry V.*, edited with Notes by W. Barry (Blackie),—*A Lay of the Southern Cross, and other Poems*, by the Very Rev. H. Jacobs (Skeffington),—*The Church of England and Recent Religious Thought*, by C. A. Whittuck (Macmillan),—*The First Millennium Faith* (Remington),—*The Mystery of Iniquity, Sermons*, by the Right Rev. P. Brooks (Macmillan),—*Altindische Ahnencult*, by Dr. W. Caland (Leyden, Brill),—*Dangerous Conquête*, by E. Valentin (Paris, Flammarion). Among New Editions we have *A System of Free Gymnastics and Light Dumb-Bell Drill*, compiled by Sergeant-Major S. G. Noakes (Gale & Polden),—*Mechanics and Mechanism*, by R. S. Burn (Ward & Lock),—*Story of the Golden Owl*, by Mrs. Greet (The Leadenhall Press),—*A Book of Simple Prayers*, collected by E. W. (Reading, Langley),—*Our Reptiles and Batrachians*, by M. C. Cooke, LL.D. (W. H. Allen & Co.),—*The Book of Old Edinburgh*, by J. C. Dunlop and A. H. Dunlop (Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier),—*and A Stumble on the Threshold*, by J. Payn (Cox).

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

##### ENGLISH.

##### Theology.

- Berger's (J. S.) *Lux Diurna, Light for the Day* gathered from Holy Scripture, &c., 12mo. 4/6 cl.  
Cox's (Late Samuel) *The Hebrew Twins, a Vindication of God's Ways with Jacob and Esau*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
Cuyler's (T. L.) *Christianity in the Home*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
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Free's (B. W.) *Church and Dissent, Sunday Evening Lectures*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.  
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Kirtton's (J. W.) *The Christian Growth*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Master's Guide (The) for His Disciples, with Preface by E. Stock, 16mo. 3/6 cl.  
Orpen-Palmer's (H. H.) *Septem Ecclesiæ, Thoughts on the Epistles to Churches in Asia*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
Pearse's (M. G.) *Naaman the Syrian, and other Sermons*, 2/6 cl.  
Sacred Books of the East: Vol. 41, *The Satapatha-Brahman*, translated by J. Eggeling, Part 3, Books 5, 6, and 7, 12/6 cl.  
St. Augustine's *De Civitate Dei*, Books 11, 12, Translation, Introduction, and Notes by Rev. H. Gee, 12mo. 3/ cl.  
Taylor's (Rev. W. M.) *The Silence of Jesus, and other Sermons*, cr. 8vo. 6/6 cl.  
Tovey's (Rev. D. C.) *The Story of Samuel and Saul, its Lessons for To-day*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.

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- Snow's (F.) *Cases and Opinions on International Law*, with Notes, roy. 8vo. 20/ cl.  
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- Crane's (Walter) *Eight Illustrations to Shakespeare's 'Tempest'*, folio, 21/ net.  
Francis's (B.) *The Scenery of Tennyson's Poems, Forty Etchings, with Introduction*, &c., folio, 63/ net; Proofs, 105/ net.  
Heaton's (J. A.) *Furniture and Decoration in England during Eighteenth Century*, 4 vols. folio, 147/ net, cl.  
Morin's (L.) *French Illustrators*, Introduction by J. Claretie, Édition de Luxe, 72/8 net.

##### Poetry and the Drama.

- Adams's (E. D.) *The Poet's Praise*, from Homer to Swinburne, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
Booth (Edwin). *Life and Art of*, by W. Winter, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.  
Dixon's (W. M.) *English Poetry from Blake to Browning*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Fanshawe's (R.) *Two Lives, a Poem*, 16mo. 4/6 net, cl.  
Sims's (A. C. G.) *Phœbe's Shakespeare*, arranged for children, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Specimens of Greek Tragedy, translated by G. Smith, 2 vols. 12mo. 10/ cl.

##### Political Economy.

- Baden-Powell's (B. H.) *Short Account of the Land Revenue, &c. in British India*, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.  
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## History and Biography.

- Adams (F.) The New Egypt, a Social Sketch, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.  
 Dictionary of National Biography, edited by S. Lee, Vol. 37.  
 roy. 8vo. 15/ cl.  
 Fryer (A. C.) Llantwit Major, a Fifth Century University, cr. 8vo. 4/ cl.  
 Lane-Poole (S.) The Mohammedan Dynasties, Chronological and Genealogical Sketches, cr. 8vo. 12/ net.  
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## Philology.

- Hall's (T. D.) A First Introduction to the Greek Testament, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
 Hatch's (E.) A Concordance to the Septuagint, Part 3, 21/ net.  
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## Science.

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 Newman's (J.) Notes on Cylinder Bridge Piers and the Well System of Foundations, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
 Pieroni's (G. A.) Text-Book of Normal Histology, 8vo. 12/6 net.  
 Politzer's Text-Book of the Diseases of the Ear, translated by O. Dodd, 8vo. 21/ cl.  
 Sohn's (C. E.) Dictionary of the Active Principles of Plants, oblong 8vo. 10/6 cl.  
 Thudichum's (J. L. W.) Treatise on Wines, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

## General Literature.

- Banner's (H. C.) Made in France, Tales retold with a United States Twist, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
 Burton's (R.) The Anatomy of Melancholy, edited by Rev. A. R. Shilleto, 3 vols. 8vo. 31/6 net.  
 Cresswell's (H.) Broken Fortunes, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.  
 Davidson's (Mrs. H. C.) What our Daughters can do for Themselves, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
 Goldsmith's (Oliver) Works, Etchings and Photographures by J. Jeilcoo and H. Bailton, 6 vols. fcap. 2/6 each, net.  
 Grey Romance (A.), by Mrs. Clifford, and Stories by H. D. Traill and others, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
 Grundy's (S.) The Days of his Vanity, a Passage in the Life of a Young Man, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
 Gunn's (J.) Sons of the Vikings, an Orkney Story, cr. 8vo. 3/ net.  
 Hauff's (W.) The Little Glass Man, and other Stories, 12mo. 2/6 cl. (Children's Library.)  
 Johnston's (J.) Reality versus Romance in South Central Africa, cr. 8vo. 21/ cl.  
 Keith's (L.) Lisbeth, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.  
 Kenesly's (A.) Molly and her Man-o'-War, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
 Lee's (F. G.) Sights and Shadows, being Examples of the Supernatural, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
 Mikoulich's (V.) Mimi's Marriage, a Sketch, translated from Russian, 12mo. 2/ cl. (Pseudonym Library.)  
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 O'Neill's (H. C.) Told in the Dimples, 2/6 cl.  
 Rutherford's (M.) Catharine Furze, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 12/ cl.  
 Sailor (The) of the Istar, by El Jady, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
 Sewell's (A.) Black Beauty, the Autobiography of a Horse, illustrated by J. Beer, cr. 4to. 5/ cl.  
 Smith's (G.) Essays on Questions of the Day, cr. 8vo. 9/ cl.  
 Story Album of Animals (The), cr. 4to. 3/6 bds.  
 Tennyson's (M. H.) The Pool of Fate, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.  
 Theories: Studies from a Modern Woman, by A. N. T. A. P., cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl. (Independent Novel Series.)  
 Tut's (J. W.) Random Recollections of Woodland, Fen, and Hill, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.  
 Wiggins's (K. D.) Polly Oliver's Problem, a Story for Girls, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.  
 Yorke's (C.) Darrell Chevasney, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.

## FOREIGN.

## Theology.

- Handkommentar zum Alten Testament, hrsg. v. W. Nowack, Div. 3, Vol. 2, 6m. 40.  
 Jesaja, unpunktierter Ausgabe des masoreth. Textes, bes. v. R. Kretzschmar, 1m.  
 Möller (W.): Lehrbuch der Kirchengeschichte, Vol. 3, 10m.  
 Nögen (C. F.): Geschichte der neuteamentlichen Offenbarung, 2 Bde., 12m.  
 Reuss (B.): Das Alte Testament übers. u. erläutert, Parts 24-27, 5m. 20.  
 Sammlung kirchen-u. dogmengeschichtlicher Quellen-schriften, hrsg. v. G. Krüger, Vol. 8, 3m.  
 Wurmund (L.): Das Kirchenpatronatrecht in Oesterreich, Part 1, 4m.

## Law.

- Geib (O.): Zur Dogmatik des römischen Bürgschaftsrechts, 4m.  
 Fine Art and Archaeology.  
 Alexandre (A.): Histoire populaire de la Peinture: École Française, 15fr.  
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- Dumas (J.): Le Problème Foncier en Angleterre, 6fr.

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 Guillois (A.): Napoléon, 2 vols. 15fr.  
 Henne am Rhyn (O.): Geschichte des Rittertums, 4m.  
 Journal de Marie Thérèse de France (1789-1792), 10fr.  
 Monumenta Germaniae Historica: Legum Sectio II., Capitularia Regum Francorum, edd. A. Boretius et V. Krause, Tomi 2, Pars 2, 9m.

## Geography and Travel.

- Bernard (M.): De Tunis à Alger, 10fr.  
 Claparède (A. de): A travers le Monde, 3fr. 50.  
 Forge (J. de la): Tunis-Port-de-Mer, 3fr. 50.  
 Kaindl (R. F.): Die Huzulen, 5m.  
 Yung (E.): Zermatt et la Vallée de la Viège, 20fr.

## Philology.

- Benfey (T.): Gesammelte kleinere Schriften, ausgewählt v. A. Bezzenberger, Part 4, 29m.  
 Erhardt (L.): Die Entstehung der homerischen Gedichte, 12m.  
 Erman (A.): Aegyptische Grammatik, 16m.  
 Jackson (A. V. W.): Avesta Reader, Series 1, 4m.  
 Knudtzon (J. A.): Assyrische Gebete an den Sonnengott, 2 vols. 40m.  
 Krumbacher (K.): Mittelgriechische Sprichwörter, 3m.  
 Meyer-Lübke (W.): Grammatik der romanischen Sprachen, Vol. 2, 11m.  
 Schwally (F.): Idioticon des christlich palästinischen Aramäisch, 6m. 40.

## Science.

- Müller (L.): Grundzüge e. vergleichenden Anatomie der Blumenblätter, 30m.

## General Literature.

- Daudet (A.): Sur les Planches, 2fr.  
 Lafontaine (H.): La Servante, 3fr. 50.

## NOTES FROM OXFORD.

December, 1893.

A DECIDED step towards the decision of a much vexed question was taken on Tuesday, the 28th ult., when Congregation, by a majority of 110 to 70, passed a resolution declaring the establishment of a Final Honour Examination in English literature and language.

It will now be the duty of Council to take care that a statute is drafted giving effect to this resolution. As to the main lines on which the new examination should be framed there seems to be a fairly general agreement. It may be safely predicted that care will be taken to award equal weight to literature and language—that a general knowledge of both will be required of all candidates, but that within these limits those who read for the school will be left free to devote themselves specially to one or the other of these two subjects. Such a combination of literary and linguistic study is in accordance with the best traditions of the University, and is for the advantage of both lines of study.

At the beginning of this term a largely signed memorial was presented to Council, urging the desirability of opening the B.A. degree to persons who, though they had not passed the qualifying examinations, had distinguished themselves by special study or research. The memorial is still under the consideration of the committee to whom it was referred, and the result of their deliberations will not be known until next term. But the question raised by the memorialists is one of great importance, and demands the careful consideration of the University. The grounds on which some such reform as that suggested in the memorial is advocated are mainly two. It is urged that our present regulations keep away from the University students whose presence here would be in every way desirable, such, for instance, as graduates of American universities or students from the local colleges in Great Britain. To such men the University might open the prospect of obtaining a degree, provided that they resided here for a period of two or three years and produced some substantial piece of work. It is urged, in the second place, that such a degree would greatly encourage post-graduate study among our own men.

In this last direction a useful step has been taken by the alterations recently made in the conditions under which the Arnold Prize is offered for competition. It will still be awarded for an essay on some historical subject. But the value of the prize has been increased, and the limit of standing for candidates has been raised from eight to twelve years from the date of matriculation. There is every reason to hope that the Arnold Prize, thus remodelled, will do as good work in encouraging systematic study among our younger graduates as the Craven Fellowship has already done. It is satisfactory to note that whereas eight years ago the Radcliffe Travelling Fellowship stood alone, we have now not only the Craven Fellowship, but a Biological Studentship connected with the scientific station at Naples, and a Geographical Studentship, endowed partly by the University and partly by the Royal Geographical Society. More recently still the Theological Board of Faculty has determined to send out a small "mission" to search for early MSS. in Eastern monasteries.

P.

## THE ALLEGED GREEK EQUIVALENT OF THE VEDIC "VRITRA."

Oxford.

In the second volume of Prof. Max Müller's 'Chips from a German Workshop,' published in 1868, there is an essay on the myth of Belerophon, written as far back as November, 1855. In this essay Prof. Max Müller maintains the "identification of Kerberos with the Sanskrit sarvara" (dark, pale, or nocturnal)—an equation which he had proposed in a paper read in April, 1848, and published in the *Transactions of the Philological Society*—and also asserts that the dog of Geryones, "known by the name of Orthros," is "the exact copy of the Vedic Vritra." On this second identification I beg to be allowed to make a few remarks. The equivalence of the Greek "Orthros" with the Sanskrit "Vritra" is still held by Prof. Max Müller as an indisputable fact, as may be seen from a passage on p. 595 of his 'Science of Language,' a revised edition of which appeared so late as 1891: "Orthros is the dark spirit that is to be fought by the Sun in the morning, the well-known Sanskrit Vritra." And in the current *Quarterly*, in an important article on 'Vedic Mythology,' the authorship of which can be surmised without difficulty, the Reviewer says that "it is well known that the root VAR (to cover) yielded in Sanskrit the name Vritra, a demon of darkness, the Greek Orthros."

Two objections may be made to the equation Orthros=Vritra. The first objection is that it is quite certain that the two words do not agree phonetically. In the first place, original *r* sonant, the Sanskrit form of which is transliterated by Prof. Max Müller by *ri*, would be represented in Greek by the sound *ap*; it would not be regularly represented by *op*, unless followed in the next syllable by *v* or *fo*. Secondly, one would expect that the Greek equivalent of Sanskrit *tra* would be *tro*, not *tho*.

The second objection is that there is no good authority for the word "Orthros," occurring as the name of the watch-dog of Geryones, anywhere in the whole range of Greek literature. In Liddell and Scott's 'Greek Dictionary,' it is true, the dog-name "Orthros" is alleged to occur in two Greek texts, namely, in Hesiod's 'Theogony,' and in the 'Bibliotheca' of Apollodorus. But on investigating the matter it will be found that from both these texts, in the latest critical editions, the form *orthros* has been expelled, and the form *orthos* takes its place as the reading of the best MSS. In the case of Hesiod I may mention the following editions: that of Goettling, 1843, of Koehly and Kinkel, 1870, and of Rzach, 1884. For Apollodorus see the edition of Hercher, 1874. On these grounds I think that the often repeated iden-

tification of "Orthros" with Sanskrit Vritra must be rejected.  
A. L. MAYHEW.

## VOLTAIRE IN ENGLAND.

December 11, 1893.

In the *Athenæum* of December 2nd I gave my definite and final answer to Mr. Collins. I there assured him, in the most frank and straightforward language that I could employ, that I did not owe a syllable to his essay, and that my book would have appeared precisely as it is now printed if he had not written on the subject at all. Mr. Collins in his last communication is good enough to say that he is bound to believe me; in fact, he goes so far as to say that he would be ashamed not to believe me. It is, no doubt, very good of him to say so; but where is the value of statements of this kind when they are qualified by such remarks as that I have used literary materials which he has also employed, in a manner which is "supernaturally strange"? It would be far better to speak with perfect frankness.

I ask Mr. Collins two questions; and I make one criticism.

1. Mr. Collins, while saying that he believes what I have said, repeats his statement that I disingenuously ignored the existence of his essay. In the preface to my book I mentioned only two works as notable contributions to this subject. One of these two was Mr. Collins's essay. Is that what he calls ignoring it?

2. Does Mr. Collins suppose that the British Museum is a hunting ground reserved for himself? He seems to think that I could not independently have made my way to the various sources of information if his essay had not been there to help me. Where, I ask, is Mr. Collins's sense of humour, not to say his common sense? I have worked pretty constantly in the Museum for more than fifteen years, and much of my work has lain in the MS. Department. I am, perhaps, quite as well acquainted with the catalogues of MSS., of printed books, and of newspapers, as Mr. Collins himself; and he knows as well as I do that when a writer is independently investigating a literary subject he goes first of all to the fountain head. What private sources of information Mr. Collins may have had I do not know. I had none. Every reader at the British Museum had all the information open to him that I have used. And after all, Mr. Collins's private resources can have been of but little use to him. He says I have copied from him. Would not the private materials to which only Mr. Collins had access have been just those which an unprincipled writer would have attempted to appropriate? Yet there is not a single reference in my book to any private authorities. The Reports of the Historical MSS. Commission are, of course, public property.

3. I make one criticism. Mr. Collins says that he began his essay by expressing his obligations to M. Desnoiresterres and to Mr. Parton. This is a hard saying. M. Desnoiresterres's work on Voltaire is classical; Mr. Parton is an American writer, whose huge book no doubt proves industry, but is in far too many respects everything that a literary biography ought not to be. It may do well enough for the average American reader; the European critic closed his ears to it. Mr. Collins, no doubt, is referring to it only in so far as it deals with Voltaire's life in England. Perhaps Mr. Collins is not aware that this portion of the book is only a reprint of an article in an American magazine; and perhaps he is also not aware that Mr. Parton's ludicrous mistakes were pointed out by Mr. George Saintsbury in the *Fortnightly Review*. That a writer with a literary reputation to lose should bracket together two such authors as M. Desnoiresterres and Mr. Parton, as those to whom he owes his obligations, is an instance of critical infelicity

which is almost unintelligible. Mr. Collins has been quick to accuse me of indebtedness to himself; I should be sorry to accuse him of indebtedness to Mr. Parton.

ARCHIBALD BALLANTYNE.

## PILGRIMAGES TO MECCA.

December 5, 1893.

YOUR correspondents Este and R. R. have expressed surprise at my not having inserted the names of Mr. J. F. Keane and Dr. Hurgonje "when I endeavoured to correct and supplement Lady Burton's list" of Mecca pilgrims. If they will kindly look at my letter again, they will see that I was only quoting the list in the Memorial edition, and was not attempting to substitute a complete one of my own.

Lady Burton says in her preface: "My part is to search out such papers, annotations, and latest notes and corrections, as will form the most complete work"; but when I point to her careless omissions and unfairness, she replies: "I did not write the indexes nor appendices, and I have not corrected them," and, implying I ought to have read four editions of a dry book, quite irrelevantly adds that "I did not attack her husband during thirty-seven years" (the greater part of which time the appendices did not exist), but, "knowing that discretion is the better part of valour," I waited to pounce upon "a poor widow," which kind of retort courteous we have, many of us, heard from Lady Burton before. Tolerable nonsense all this may be, though it is nothing to what follows. She met my brother and his wife once, twenty-one years ago, and the latter, being tired after a long day's ride, begged for a common dose of medicine, of which the account given is: "She was very ill, and I nursed her." In that one evening too—for he continued his journey the next morning—she "got pretty intimate," "knew Mr. Herman Bicknell very well," and, owing partly, I may take it, to other information obtained secretly—"as they knew nearly everybody at Jeddah, and some of the authorities at Mecca"—certainly knew him much better than I ever did, after the closest intimacy with him; because he whispered to her about a terrible "ceremony" over which, though all the millions of Musulmans undergo it, "he nearly lost his life"; finally winding up the cozy, confidential evening by talking like a born idiot, envying Sir Richard being "in the swim of it," and uttering the shameful lie "that his father cut him off with a shilling."

Now, am I expected to treat the above statements seriously, and consider myself "answered"? I ask also, if "this is no depreciation of Mr. Herman Bicknell," what, in Heaven's name, is? If anything, however, can be extracted from this rigmarole, it seems to be that Lady Burton now wishes us to understand her husband's exploit consisted not, as we all supposed, in going to Mecca, but in going there disguised, which is the same thing as saying that Burton purposely and causelessly created nearly all the danger he ran; since, being qualified as a Muhammadan both corporeally and with sufficient knowledge of Moslem ritual and Arabic, he had no need to assume the part of a half-breasted Persian, involving the extreme risk of being found out and punished for the cheat. It cannot be too plainly stated, once for all, that if Sir Richard had not been protected, as I know positively he was, by the "ceremony" which Lady Burton, with such amusing innocence of its consequences, refers to, then visiting Mecca in disguise would have been a stupid foolhardy feat.

The assertion that apparent converts "do not get to see the inner sacred places, nor the inner life" at Mecca, betrays a curious ignorance of what that city contains, and what is required of pilgrims. Burton's Arabic undoubtedly was quite sufficient to translate the 'Arabian Nights' literally, or the 'Scented Garden,' but in con-

versation it could no more be taken for that of an Arab than my brother's; and the best Arabic scholars, I think, will support me when I say no Englishman, whether of gipsy descent or not, could by any amount of study, or in any time, acquire a perfect accentuation of that language, especially of its guttural sounds, and it was precisely on account of that insuperable difficulty that Burton proclaimed himself a fakir of hybrid birth.

As my brother's journals and correspondence are in my possession, I feel sorely tempted to make a few extracts to enlighten and reward Lady Burton for her kind revelations to me about my deceased brother and father; but as my letter is already long I will for the present confine myself to saying that her huge biography of Sir Richard and her letters remind me of Don Quixote tilting at windmills for imagined enemies, with this difference, that whereas the Knight of La Mancha was certainly cracked, she, as far as I know, is only a little superstitious or imaginative, wholly regardless of others' reputations or feelings, and sometimes mischievous.

A. S. BICKNELL.

December 4, 1893.

As an old friend and former brother officer of Dr. Herman Bicknell, I must entirely corroborate Lady Burton's views regarding the circumstances under which he went to Mecca. I met him in London shortly after his return, and he then told me that, as regards creed, he was a Catholic in the West and a Mohammedan in the East. Dr. Bicknell, moreover, never claimed any especial credit for the expedition itself, as he simply went as a renegade Christian. We, his friends in the 81st Regiment, also heard how nearly his life had been lost, through blood poisoning having set in after the ceremony of initiation; and how his pecuniary position in his father's will had been affected. Herman Bicknell was a man of strong individuality and gifted with a high intelligence, but of no fixed principles. In fact, his was an emotional and experimental nature, and as he probably would have said of himself, "Parmi de certaines gens, je passe pour un fou."

W. H. M. JACKSON, Lieut.-Col.

## SALE.

MESSRS. SOTHEY, WILKINSON & HODGE sold the following books, from the library of a gentleman, on Monday. Apperley, *Memoirs of the Life of John Mytton, 1835*, 10s. 10s. Barham, *Ingoldsby Legends*, 3 vols., 1840-7, 16s. 15s. Carey, *Life in Paris, 1822*, 13s. 10s. Combe, *Three Tours of Dr. Syntax, 1820*, 10s. 15s. Dickens, *Sketches by Boz*, both series, 1836-7, 15s. 15s.; *Sketches by Boz, 1839*, 13s.; Pickwick, with extra illustrations by Buss and Pailthorpe, 1837, 14s.; *Oliver Twist, 1846*, 10s. 7s. 6d.; *Master Humphrey's Clock, 3 vols., 1840-1*, 15s. Egan, *Life in London, and Finish to the Adventures of Tom, Jerry, and Logick, 1821-30*, 21s. 10s. C. Mathews, *Memoirs, with extra illustrations, 1838*, 21s. 10s. Surtees, *Jorrocks's Jaunts and Jollities, 1843*, 10s. Westmacott, *English Spy, 2 vols., 1825-6*, 16s. 5s. Burton, *Arabian Nights and Supplement, 16 vols., 25s.* Liber Precum, MS. on vellum illuminated, Sæc. XIV., 31l. 10s.

## SECRET SOCIETIES AND THE POPE.

WE have received from a Roman Catholic dignitary a most important and interesting communication, which we append. The Roman Catholic Church has never made it clear to English Masons, Foresters, Odd Fellows, &c., and still less to their Australian brothers, that they are tolerated, and we believe that Archbishop Moran has taught the opposite doctrine. At all events, he has been charged in Australia with having done so:—

"In your last number (*Athenæum*, No. 3450, Dec. 9th, 1893) a contributor writes (p. 806, col. 2), 'There is no more curious example of riding a hobby to

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death than the fact that the Roman Catholic Church denounces as wicked associations to which no good Catholic can belong Oddfellowship, Forestry, Shepherdry, and other amalgamated friendly societies' associations, in the United Kingdom, the United States, and the British colonies, for no other reason than that the admirable societies concerned have their little-hidden secret signs and words." The writer is certainly misinformed. There are two classes of secret society condemned by the Catholic Church. The first is that of the Freemasons and similar sects, 'which conspire against the Church and lawful authority,' whether they require an oath of secrecy or not. These are condemned in the Constitution 'Apostolic Sodis' issued by the late Pope Pius IX. The second class comprises those societies which exact 'an oath of absolute secrecy and absolute obedience to unknown chiefs.' These are condemned in an instruction of the Holy Office dated May 10th, 1884. To the former condemnation there is added excommunication. Societies which have only secret passwords, or which enjoin secrecy as to their rules and transactions, are not in any way forbidden merely by reason of such secrecy."

#### TALES OF A BOOK CANVASSEER.

The Leadenhall Press.

A CANVASSEER from another firm of publishers called the other day upon one of the subscribers to 'London City Suburbs,' wherein appeared, it may be remembered, a list of names and addresses. He explicitly stated that copies of a work containing coloured pictures and entitled 'Old London Vanished and Vanishing,' now in course of production by Messrs. Virtue & Co., Limited, is being offered exclusively to subscribers to 'London City Suburbs,' issued from the Leadenhall Press. He further explicitly stated that copies were worth twenty pounds apiece, and that they could not be obtained by outsiders. On the strength of these statements an order to the amount of 6l. 10s. was signed.

Afterwards, feeling doubtful as to the truthfulness of the glowing story, the subscriber called here, the result being a letter from him to the publishers of 'Old London Vanished and Vanishing,' cancelling the order on the ground of false pretences.

We feel certain that Messrs. Virtue & Co. will be glad to have their attention drawn through the *Athenæum* to irresponsible tongue-wagging which necessitates a separate note of warning from ourselves to all our old subscribers, and we feel equally certain that they will not allow the attendant costs to come out of our coffers.

ANDREW W. TIER.

#### Literary Gossip.

THE first instalment of Lord Wolseley's 'Life of Marlborough' will really make its appearance next spring, though we shall not reach Blenheim until a later volume. The Duke of Buccleuch has kindly lent to Mr. Bentley some valuable miniatures to illustrate the work.

MR. GEORGE MEREDITH's novel in the *Pall Mall Magazine* will be followed by one from the pen of Mr. Rider Haggard, and that by a novel from Mr. Walter Besant. Mr. Rudyard Kipling and Mrs. W. K. Clifford have each written short stories which will appear in early numbers of the magazine.

WE are glad to hear that Lucas Malet has quite recovered from her long illness, and hopes to publish her new novel in the spring. Mr. F. Chapman, the well-known publisher, is also convalescent.

MR. RUDYARD KIPLING will contribute another Indian story to the January *St. Nicholas*, entitled 'Mowgli's Brothers.'

A NEW story by Miss Braddon will run through the *Gentlewoman* from January to July. It will be called 'Thou Art the Man.'

IT will be remembered that last spring Prof. Douglas delivered a course of three lectures on 'Society in China' at the Royal Institution. As the necessities of time compelled him to compress within narrow limits his very wide subject, he has, at the request of Messrs. Innes & Co., undertaken to re-write his lectures in a fuller and more complete form. In this amplified shape they will appear as an illustrated volume during the next publishing season.

LORD DE TABLEY has kindly permitted Mr. Bentley to copy his fine portrait of James Northcote, R.A., for the forthcoming edition of Hazlitt's 'Conversations with Northcote,' edited by Mr. Gosse.

THE volume of the 'Dictionary of National Biography' to be published on Friday next extends from Masquerier to Millyng. Mr. Robert Boyle writes on Massinger; Mr. Robert Dunlop on Henri de Massue de Ruigny, Earl of Galway; Mr. Justice Mathew on Father Mathew, apostle of temperance; Mr. Joseph Knight on Charles Mathews, Charles James Mathews, and Lucia Elizabeth Mathews, Madame Vestris; Mr. W. P. Courtney on T. J. Mathias; Miss Kate Norgate on the Empress Matilda; the Rev. W. H. Hutton on Archbishop Tobie Matthew; Mr. Thomas Seccombe on Sir Tobie Matthew; Dr. Richard Garnett on Charles Robert Maturin; Mr. Leslie Stephen on Frederick Denison Maurice, Conyers Middleton, James Mill, and John Stuart Mill; Mr. R. T. Glazebrook, F.R.S., on James Clerk Maxwell; Mr. J. M. Rigg on Sir Thomas Erskine May, Lord Farnborough; Mr. Sidney Lee on Jasper Mayne, Francis Meres, and Joe Miller; Dr. Norman Moore on Dr. Richard Mead; Mr. G. F. Russell Barker on T. F. Meagher 'of the sword' and Lord Metcalfe; the Rev. Alexander Gordon on Andrew Melville, the leader of the Scottish Presbyterians; Mr. C. L. Kingsford on Merlin; Mr. J. A. Hamilton on Edward Miall; Mr. Thomas Bayne on William Julius Mickle; Prof. C. H. Herford on Thomas Middleton, the dramatist; and Mr. R. B. Prosser on Patrick Miller, projector of steam navigation.

THE late Baroness Tauphous, whose novels 'The Initials,' 'Quits,' and 'At Odds' so truthfully illustrated German life, never recovered, it is said, from the double blow she sustained in the loss of her husband and her only son in one fortnight.

MR. GEORGE MOORE has written a study of the life and works of M. Zola, which will appear in the January number of the *English Illustrated Magazine*. 'Esther Waters' is to appear in January. As we mentioned some weeks ago, Mr. Moore has largely rewritten that part of 'Esther Waters' which has already been given to the public.

MR. HUBERT CRACKANTHORPE, author of the much debated little book called 'Wreckage,' has written a short story called 'A Commonplace Chapter.' It will appear shortly in the *New Review*, and probably run through two numbers. The *New Review*, we may add, has passed from Messrs. Longman to Mr. Heinemann, who is going to enlarge it and add various new features, such as illustrated articles and also a short story each month. The *Review*, of course, is not in any way intended to compete with an ordinary magazine, and the illustrations are

to be of actual help to the understanding of the text. For instance, there is to be in the next number an article by Prof. Max Müller, which will have four full-page plates; then an article by Mr. Walter Crane on his American experiences, with fifteen drawings by himself; and so on. Mr. Grove remains the editor.

THE volume which Messrs. Blackwood are publishing on 'Marchmont and the Humes of Polwarth' has been made possible by the free access accorded to the writer, who is a descendant of the Earls of Marchmont, to all the treasures of the Marchmont library, while he has been able from family tradition and knowledge of the locality to illustrate the history of the extinct earldom. In particular the work will contain an anecdotal history of the Humes of Polwarth and Marchmont, by Lady Anne Purves, from a MS. in the Marchmont library which has never before been printed.

THE question of eliminating Paley's 'Evidences' from the Previous Examination at Cambridge has been raised anew by the conference which took place last week, under the auspices of the Cambridge Clerical Society. It is understood that the matter will now probably be taken up by the Board of Theological Studies. The discussion was opened by Mr. W. A. Gill, of Magdalene College, who had already expressed in letters to the *Cambridge Review* an opinion strongly adverse to the author of the 'Evidences.' "Paley," he says, "if he had common sense, had hardly anything else." Mr. Gill is in favour of a new text-book, to be prepared by a committee of scholars. The opinion is, however, gaining ground that the subject itself is unsuited for examinations other than theological.

THE death is announced, at the age of seventy-eight, of Mr. John Maclaren, who some years ago was a conspicuous figure in the bookselling and publishing trades at Edinburgh. He disposed of his business to Messrs. Macniven & Wallace, who had been on his staff, and by whom it is still carried on. At one period Mr. Maclaren took an interest in public matters, and he had been a member of the Edinburgh Town Council. He passed away at the quiet town of Moffat, where he had been latterly living in retirement.

A SUPPLEMENT to Mr. Phillimore's 'How to Write the History of a Family,' which is now out of print, is in the press. Amongst the additional matter will be chapters on Irish and Scotch records.

STUDENTS of Indian ethnography will be grieved when they learn that the whole "remainder" of Grierson's invaluable work on 'Behar Peasant Life' has been destroyed by the deliberate act of the Government of Bengal. Some time ago Mr. Grierson had moved the Government of Bengal to sanction the appointment of a publisher for the book, in order to facilitate its sale; for while very widely in demand, it has, owing to its being an official publication, never been particularly easy to procure. Soon afterward Mr. Grierson, having to make a routine visit to one of the Calcutta paper mills, found there, to his utter astonishment, torn-up copies of the book ready to be converted into pulp, and to enter once more "the Circle of (papyraceous) Births."

In answer to inquiries Mr. Grierson found that the Bengal Government, being in want of more storage room in the General Department of the Secretariate, had sold the whole stock of his 'Behar Peasant Life' as waste paper, at the rate of something like five rupees the Bengal maund ("mina"), and that without even giving the gifted author any intimation of their act. Mr. Grierson managed to rescue five complete copies of his work from the pulpers, and that is the whole salvage out of the wreck. Surely this is an amazing piece of official blundering.

THE recent serious illness of Mr. J. S. Fletcher—better known by his pseudonym "A Son of the Soil"—has led to the starting at Bradford of a fund on his behalf. Mr. Fletcher has struggled with ill-health for several years, and has at various times been incapacitated for work. This year has proved a peculiarly unfortunate one for him. In June last he was seized with small-pox, and he had scarcely recovered from this malady when he was attacked by an acute form of peritonitis. For several weeks the doctors gave no hope of his recovery. Fortunately he is now convalescent, but it will be many months before he is strong enough to do much. Mr. Jarratt, of the Junior Liberal Club at Bradford, will receive subscriptions.

MR. C. F. KEARY, whose picture of artist life in Paris in his novel 'The Two Lancrofts' has caused such a raising of eyebrows at the lending libraries, is now studying a very different scene. He has been at Quetta, and is probably by now at the Khyber Pass. A study of Afghan frontier life, drawn *en plein air* (if that be his design), would certainly offer an interesting field for the naturalistic method with which he is (perhaps only temporarily) enamoured.

WE are indebted to the *Methodist Recorder* for an extract from the diary of the late Rev. W. Naylor, in which he states that at a Methodist meeting in 1832 he was on the platform along with an orator he describes as "a handsome, dashing, clever young man," who spoke effectively in behalf of Wesleyan missions. The young man was, it seems, the future Lord Beaconsfield.

THE late J. Palliopi, the philologist and poet of the Latin dialect of the Grisons, spent a great many years in the compilation of a dictionary of the Latin idiom. After his death the work was continued by his son, E. Palliopi, the parson of Pontresina, with the aid of several patriotic students of the Romansch speech. The whole manuscript is now complete and ready for the press; but funds for printing so costly an undertaking were wanting. Application was made to the Department of the Interior of the Council of the Swiss Confederation for a public grant towards the expenses. A committee of experts was appointed to examine the work, and we are glad to see that on the committee's report of the great linguistic value of the work, the Council has granted a subvention of 1,000 francs a year for three successive years towards the cost of printing.

THE report of the Oxford Conference on Secondary Education, which was issued to members of the Conference last week, concludes with the terms of the memorial ad-

ressed to Mr. Gladstone by the University in favour of a Royal Commission of inquiry. It is surely a little strange that the authorities of the University, having recognized the Conference on the express condition that it should not discuss or adopt any resolution, should themselves undertake to sum up its opinions, and demand a Royal Commission as its logical sequel. Even if the policy of proceeding by commission were the right one, it was certainly not formally endorsed or conclusively recommended by the October Conference. However, as the Commission is to be appointed it does not much matter.

DR. MILLS's Zend-Sanskrit dictionary of the Gāthas, announced in the *Athenæum* of April 12th, 1884, will be produced in curtailed form, as Dr. Mills has treated the subject so fully already, giving all the texts with translations and a lengthy commentary. The MS. of this lexicon has been finished for years. A succinct dictionary to all the Avesta will, it is hoped, follow.

MR. A. D. WELD-FRENCH, of Boston, the author of the 'Index Armorial,' has just finished a collection of 'Notes on the Surnames of Francus, Franceis, French, &c., in Scotland, with an Account of the Franches of Thorndykes.' The work contains a discussion of the origin of the name, and some account of the Scots families who have borne it, and of their connexion with the Stuart kings. Three hundred copies only will be printed.

MR. QUARITCH showed a fine collection of illuminated manuscripts to the Odd Volumes at their conversation on Tuesday, and in order to vindicate their character for literature the Sette exhibited much interest in the superb things shown to them. Mr. Quaritch was quite in his element.

FROM Berlin comes the news of the death of Von der Gabelentz, the eminent Sinologist. We shall have something to say about his career next week.—Prof. Milligan, of Aberdeen, has died in Edinburgh. He was a theologian of reputation, wrote commentaries upon the Gospel of St. John and the Apocalypse, was Croall Lecturer and twice Baird Lecturer, and was Clerk to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

THE Parliamentary Papers this week include Royal Commission on Labour, Foreign Reports, Vol. VI.: France (2s. 1d.); and Minutes of Evidence taken before the Royal Commission on the Metropolitan Water Supply (4s. 6d.).

## SCIENCE

### ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

WE regret to hear of the death of Prof. Rudolf Wolf, Director of the Zurich Observatory, which took place on the 6th inst. in the seventy-eighth year of his age. Prof. Wolf's name is best known in this country by his labours in connexion with the periodicity of the solar spots. His literary works, however, are of great interest and importance. The principal of these are 'Geschichte der Astronomie,' which appeared at Munich in 1877, and the more elaborate 'Handbuch der Astronomie, ihrer Geschichte und Litteratur,' which was published in two volumes at Zurich, the first in 1890, and the second in 1892.

The deaths also are announced of Kammerherr von Bülow, who founded in 1869-70 the

astronomical observatory at Bothkamp, near Kiel, which, it is hoped, will still be continued with benefit to physical investigations; and of Dr. Steinheil, who has during nearly thirty years been head of the optical and astronomical instrument construction works which were established at Munich by his father in 1855.

Photographs taken by Prof. Barnard of Brooks's comet (c, 1893) at the Lick Observatory, about a week after its discovery on the 16th of October, showed some very remarkable changes in its tail, which it is suggested were caused by the passage of the comet through either a stream of meteors or a diffused cloud of comical matter too finely divided and too attenuated to be described as even a meteoric stream—for such would suffice to discompose the filmy material of which the tail probably consists. Ordinary telescopic observation showed only one short tail; but on the first photograph, taken on October 19th, three were depicted, the principal one being straight and nearly 4° in length, whilst the other two, one on each side of this, were much shorter. On the 21st a change had taken place, one of the minor tails having almost disappeared. But on the following morning the principal tail appeared to have broken up into knots and masses of nebulosity, resembling a torch flickering and streaming irregularly in the wind, whilst a portion at the end was completely detached, and appeared to be drifting off as an independent comet travelling in a different path from its parent. The comet, it may be remarked, is now about half as bright as at the time of discovery, and situated in the constellation Ursa Minor, within 20° of the north pole.

M. C. Easton, of Dordrecht, has recently published a series of careful drawings of the whole of that part of the Milky Way which is included in the northern hemisphere. His first essays were made in the year 1882, and the work occupied him, subject to many interruptions, for about five years, after which the drawings remained in portfolios until in September, 1891, he adopted a suggestion of M. W. L. Rutgers to have them reproduced by lithography. This was accordingly executed by the latter, the drawings, on grained paper, being copied from the originals by M. Easton himself with a lithographic crayon. The maps are five in number, the first three representing the different parts on a large scale, whilst the fourth is a general map giving the whole in one glance, and the fifth is a key map to the names of the portions. The author remarks that the first three "montrent mieux les détails, mais pour l'éclair relatif des parties de la zone on ne devra se guider que sur la carte générale." A useful historical introduction is prefixed, accompanied by a catalogue of remarkable spots and obscure places in the Milky Way; and there is also an appreciative preface by Prof. van de Sande Bakhuyzen, Director of the Leyden Observatory, in which he dwells upon the value which so careful a work must possess, even though appearing after the superb drawings of Dr. Boeddicker, made at Birr Castle, which were exhibited at the rooms of the Royal Astronomical Society in November, 1889, and afterwards lithographed by Mr. W. H. Wesley.

### SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Dec. 7.—Lord Kelvin, President, in the chair.—The President announced that he had appointed as Vice-Presidents the Treasurer (Sir J. Evans), Sir J. Lubbock, Dr. Perkin, and the Marquis of Salisbury.—The following papers were read: 'The Organogeny of *Asterma gibbosa*,' by Mr. E. W. MacBride; 'Reptiles from the Elgin Sandstone; Description of Two New Genera,' by Mr. E. T. Newton; 'A Dynamical Theory of the Electric and Luminiferous Medium,' by Mr. J. Larmor; 'Note on the Action of Copper Sulphate and Sulphuric Acid on Metallic Copper,' by Prof. Schuster; 'On Copper Electrolysis in *vacuo*,' by Mr. W. Gannon; and 'On a Chart of the Symmetrical Curves of the Three-Bar Motion,' by Mr. W. Brennan.



**GEOGRAPHICAL.**—Dec. 11.—Mr. C. R. Markham, President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Capt. G. W. J. Prowse, Rev. T. Eland, Prof. R. F. Harper, Messrs. T. P. Bullivant, F. Bateson, F. A. Doria, J. S. M. Fisher, J. G. Forrester, H. Geodecker, T. Helme, H. Lake, H. Norman, A. Radford, J. W. Redway, and B. Smith.—The paper read was 'The Evolution of the Geography of India,' by Mr. R. D. Oldham.

**GEOLOGICAL.**—Dec. 6.—Mr. W. H. Hudleston, President, in the chair.—Messrs. H. D. Acland, J. F. Bryant, D. Draper, G. H. Jack, S. Heslop, J. H. Howorth, W. Humble, A. W. Rowe, J. Scott, W. Simpson, V. Streich, J. J. Turnbull, and A. Wilmore were elected Fellows.—The following communications were read: 'The Purbeck Beds of the Vale of Wardour,' by the Rev. W. R. Andrews and Mr. A. J. Jukes-Browne; 'On a Picrite and other Associated Rocks at Barnton, near Edinburgh,' and 'On a Variety of Ammonites (*Stephanoceras*) subarmatus, Young, from the Upper Lias of Whitby,' by Mr. H. W. Monckton.

**BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.**—Dec. 6.—Mr. C. H. Compton in the chair.—Mr. Alderman C. Brown reported the discovery of an inscribed Roman stone in the foundations of the ancient tower called Pemberton's Parlour, Chester, which fell down early in the year, and has since been rebuilt.—By permission of the Marquis of Bute, plans were exhibited of the excavated remains of the Black Friars' Priory, Cardiff, which have recently been entirely laid open to observation. The remains are within the castle enclosure, at the western entrance to the town, and the entire ground plan has been recovered. Other extensive excavations within Cardiff Castle, carried out by the direction of the Marquis of Bute a few years ago, were also indicated on a plan of the castle sent for exhibition. A long continuous wall of Roman date with angular towers has been met with on the east side of the castle enclosure, buried beneath earthen banks of later date, on which a mediæval wall had been erected. Excavations elsewhere indicate the existence of a similar return wall on the north side.—Mr. Loftus Brock exhibited a piece of fine black Roman ware, with pattern traced by hand, found in London.—Mr. Earle Way described some very remarkable Roman bracelets of bronze which have recently been found at Bankside, Southwark, with evidences of the existence of an extensive cemetery. Other examples were of Kimmeridge jet.—Mr. Davis exhibited an earthenware matrix of the arms of London, found at Hampstead.—A paper was read on the discovery of part of the Saxon Abbey Church at Peterborough, prepared by Mr. J. T. Irvine, and read in his absence by Mr. Loftus Brock. The discovery was made after the demolition of the central tower, when certain foundations, evidently of early date, were met with, cut into by those of the existing Norman church. The piers of the tower recently removed were found to stand upon the plaster floor only of the Saxon building, without any more solid base. The ancient walling was traced as far as possible, and the outlines of two transepts and of a square presbytery have been determined. These are exactly parallel to the existing Norman walls, but the axis is more to the south than that of the present church. The discoveries were shown on a large plan. Some of the Saxon stonework bears evidence of its previous use in some more ancient building.—A paper was read on the excavation of the Stadium on the Palatine Hill, Rome, prepared by Dr. R. Forbes. The works undertaken in celebration of the silver wedding of the King and Queen of Italy are now brought to a close, and the enormous building can be inspected. The walls were partly lined with marble and partly coloured. The ranges of arches, the galleries, and the other architectural features were described in detail.

**ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.**—Dec. 6.—Mr. E. Green in the chair.—Mr. J. G. Chisholm exhibited a black figured amphora, which had previously belonged to the late Prof. T. L. Donaldson, representing the combat between Athena and a heavy-armed warrior, presumably Enkelados, on which a paper was read by Mr. Talfourd Ely. After discussing the origin, style, ornament, and probable date of the vase, Mr. Ely proceeded to give a sketch of the versions of the myth in question as treated by ancient authors and artists. He pointed out that Apollodoros incorporated various traditions in his account of the gigantomachia; and that while the vase painters (with one exception) kept to the epic conception of anthropomorphic giants, the sculptors and gem-engravers soon began to introduce more sensational types—a tendency much developed under the influence of the Pergamene school. Mr. Ely distinguished the scheme of single combat (as in the vase under review) from those representations in which Athena forms one of a triad of deities in the gigantomachia. Some account was

then given of the other vases (for the most part black figured) on which Athena and Enkelados may be recognized; and also of the chief sculptural representations of the subject.—Mr. Round read a paper 'On the Introduction of Armorial Bearings into England,' in which he opposed the accepted view that the close of the twelfth century was the date of their first appearance, and showed that an equestrian seal exists, on which the well-known Clare coat is found not later than 1146, its evidence being confirmed by two other Clare seals of about the same date. Mr. Round also showed that the Count of Meulan's seal, with its chequy bearings, could not be later than 1150. Planché was shown to have been misled in the matter, and the reign of Stephen was suggested as the most likely time for the introduction of distinct armorial bearings.

**LINNEAN.**—Dec. 7.—Prof. Stewart, President, in the chair.—Mr. A. T. Baty was admitted a Fellow, and the following were elected: Messrs. J. H. Cooke, H. Cummins, R. E. Leach, C. Sharp, A. Smith, F. C. Smith, A. H. Teague, and H. L. Thompson.—Mr. C. T. Drury exhibited and made remarks upon a new example of apospory in *Scelopendrium vulgare*, and Prof. Bower brought forward a similar case in *Trichomanes kaufussii*.—Mr. G. Bröbner exhibited some new and rare British algae, including *Haplopora globosa*, *Tilopteris mertensii*, *Ectocarpus tomentosoides*, and *Polysiphonia spinulosa v. major*.—Mr. F. Enoch, with the aid of the oxy-hydrogen lantern, exhibited the various stages of development of the black-currant mite, *Phytopus ribis*, and gave an interesting account of its life-history.—Mr. T. Christy exhibited a gigantic reed from the Zambesi, with drawings of sections. It appeared to be allied to *Sansoviera cylindrica*, but differed conspicuously in the greater size of the leaves, which measured about 9 ft. in length, instead of from 18 in. to 3 ft. The remarkably tough and strong fibre which it produces is considered to be of great commercial value, being equal to the best Sansoviera hemp.—Mr. W. F. Kirby read a paper 'On the Dragonflies of Ceylon,' with descriptions of some new species. The paper was based chiefly upon a collection made by Col. Yerbury, which he had presented to the British Museum. Seventy-five species were enumerated, of which fifty-five had been collected by Col. Yerbury. Another collection, made in Ceylon by Mr. E. Green, had been dealt with in a previous paper (*Proc. Zool. Soc.*, 1891, pp. 203-6).—On behalf of Signor Martelli, the Secretary read a paper 'On the Cause of the Fall of the Corolla in *Verbascum*,' which gave rise to an interesting discussion.

**ZOOLOGICAL.**—Dec. 5.—Mr. W. T. Blanford, V.P., in the chair.—The Secretary read a report on the additions made to the menagerie during November. Among these special attention was called to a cunning basarisi (*Basarisi astuta*), to two jerboas presented by Capt. R. A. Ogilby, and to a fine adult female of the Caucasian wild goat (*Capra caucasica*), presented by Mr. H. H. P. Deasy.—Prof. G. E. H. Howes exhibited and made remarks on some specimens of abnormal Marsipobranch fishes. These were two heads of the lamprey with the first pair of gills only imperfectly developed, and a hag (*Myxine glutinosa*) with a supernumerary gill on one side.—Mr. F. E. Beddard gave an account of the general geographical distribution of earthworms, as treated of in a work on the subject which he had in preparation. Mr. Beddard recognized sixty-nine genera of this order, divided into six families; and, after some preliminary remarks on the artificial introduction of earthworms into districts colonized from Europe, called attention to a series of tables in which the genera found in the six generally recognized regions of the earth's surface were shown. In addition to these six regions Mr. Beddard was disposed to recognize, in the case of earthworms, the existence of an Antarctic region, to embrace New Zealand and most of the Antarctic islands.—Communications were read: from Mr. C. J. Gahan, on a collection of Coleoptera from British Central Africa; amongst them examples of eight species new to science,—from Capt. F. W. Hutton, on a collection of petrels from the Kermadec Islands; amongst them was an example of a new species proposed to be called *Estrelata leucophris*,—and by Mr. G. A. Boulenger, on *Vipera renardi*, a newly recognized European viper from Southern Russia and Turkestan.

**ENTOMOLOGICAL.**—Dec. 6.—Capt. H. J. Elwes, President, in the chair.—Mr. W. F. Kirby exhibited for Dr. Livett a series of specimens of a moth taken at Wells, which Dr. Livett considered to be varieties of *Dasyampa rubiginosa*, but which many entomologists present thought were varieties of *Cerastis vaccinii*. Mr. Kirby added that specimens similar in appearance to those exhibited had been taken rather freely during the past autumn in Berkshire, and it was suggested that they might be hybrids

between *D. rubiginosa* and *C. vaccinii*.—Mr. Lovell-Keays exhibited a series of *Lycæna alceis*, with confluent spots on the under sides of the front wings. He drew attention to the fact that the insects were all taken within a short radius, and probably were in the ratio of about one in forty with reference to the ordinary form. All the examples, with one exception, were females.—Prof. S. H. Scudder, of Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A., stated that he had observed the occurrence of broods with suffused spots in America, but they were not confined to any special locality.—Mr. C. O. Waterhouse exhibited the type specimen of *Coptomia opalina* of Gory, from the Hopeian collection at Oxford, and pointed out that it was quite distinct from *C. mutabilis*, W. The distinct punctuation of the whole insect, and the striolate pygidium in *C. opalina*, were sufficient to distinguish it at once. Mr. Waterhouse called attention to this, as some French entomologists maintain that these insects are the same species. He also called attention to *Silpha atomaria* of Linnaeus, a Swedish species which appeared to have escaped notice, and was not included in any catalogue. The type is still extant in the Linnean cabinet. He also exhibited male and female specimens of a *Helopeltis* (the tea-bug), which he considered a distinct species, and stated that it had occurred only in Assam.—Mr. M. Jacoby exhibited certain species and varieties of the genus *Ceroglossus* from Chili; and Dr. D. Sharp, Mr. J. J. Walker, and Mr. Champion made remarks on their geographical distribution.—Prof. Scudder exhibited the type specimen of a fossil butterfly—*Prodryas persephone*—found in beds of tertiary age (oligocene) at Florissant, Colorado. He said the species belonged to the Nymphalidae, and the specimen was remarkable as being in more perfect condition than any fossil butterfly from the European tertiary. Dr. Sharp, Mr. Kirby, Mr. H. Goss, and the President took part in the discussion which ensued.—Mr. Goss exhibited hibernating larvae of *Spilothyrus alceæ*, which had been sent to him by Mr. F. Bromilow from St. Maurice, Nice.—Mr. W. F. H. Blandford read a paper entitled 'The Rhynchophorous Coleoptera of Japan, Part III.: Scolytidae.'—The President, Dr. Sharp, Messrs. Champion, McLachlan, and J. J. Walker took part in the discussion which ensued concerning the distribution of the group, and the admixture of Palearctic and Oriental forms in Japan.—Mr. G. T. Bethune-Baker read a paper entitled 'Notes on some Lepidoptera received from the Neighbourhood of Alexandria,' and exhibited the specimens.—Mr. McLachlan suggested that the scarcity of insects in Lower Egypt was possibly to be accounted for by the fact that much of the country was under water for a portion of the year; and Dr. Sharp said that another cause of the scarcity was the cultivation of every available piece of land for centuries past.—The President and Mr. J. J. Walker continued the discussion.—Mr. C. O. Waterhouse read a paper entitled 'Further Observations on the Tea-Bugs (*Helopeltis*) of India.'—Dr. F. A. Dixey communicated a paper entitled 'On the Phylogeny of the Pierinae, as illustrated by their Wing-Markings and Geographical Distribution.'

**PHILOLOGICAL.**—Dec. 8.—Prof. A. S. Napier, President, in the chair.—Prof. Skeat read a paper 'On Chaucer's Use of the Kentish Dialect.' Corresponding to A.-S. *y*, we find O. South. *y*, Midl. *i*, Kentish *e*. Example: A.-S. *pyt*, O. South. *pit*, Midl. *pit*, Kentish *pet*. Chaucer frequently employs Kentish forms, as shown by the rhymes. The words *clifte*, *kinde*, *sinne*, *mirthe*, *neirhen*, occur in the Midland form only. For 'merry,' Chaucer has three forms: O. South. *murrie*, Midl. *mirie*, Kentish *merie*; here the Kentish form has prevailed. Chaucer has the Midl. *byen*, by-form of *biggen*, to buy; *fulfille*; *kisse*, pt. t. *kiste*; *knitte*, pp. *knit*; *thinne*. But he also has the Kentish forms *abeggen*, *fulfelle*, *kesse*, *heste*, *knette*, *knet*, *thenne*. We may add *brigge*, a bridge; *list*, it pleases; *stinte*, to cease; for which he also uses *bregge*, *lest*, *stente*. The words *berien*, to bury, *dent*, blow, *melle*, mille, *selle*, flooring, *sherte*, shirt, *shette*, to shut, *sterie*, to stir, occur in the Kentish form only. But some of these forms were known in other dialects. Similarly, the A.-S. long *y* is long *e* in Kentish. Hence Chaucer has Midl. *drye*, dry; *fyr*, fire; but also Kentish *dreye*, *feer*. So also he has *fest*, fist; *heden*, to hide, pp. *hed*; *threste*, to thrust. We may be sure that Chaucer knew the Kentish dialect fairly well. A MS. note tells us that he was living at Greenwich when he wrote the Envoy to Scogan; and probably he lived there from 1385 to 1399. This would account for his being member for Kent in 1386; for his appointment in 1389 as a commissioner for repairing the Thames banks between Greenwich and Woolwich; and for his 'Canterbury Tales.' In the 'Reves Prologue' there is an allusion to Greenwich, as a place where 'shrews' live. Chaucer may have humorously made himself one of them.—Mr. I. Gollancz read a paper on the absurdly

misnamed 'First Riddle in the Exeter Book.' He showed that it was a fine lyric poem in five fittes, a life-drama in five acts, which he entitled 'Wulf and Eadwacer; or, a Bride's Boast and Failure.' He gave a translation of it, which Prof. Napier, Mr. Bradley, Prof. Skeat, and other scholars present, all accepted as the true explanation of the poem, given for the first time. 1. "It is with my folk, as one gives them presents. Will they welcome him (my husband Wulf) if he comes into calamity? Different am I." 2. (Early days of separation.) "Wulf is on one island, I on another. Enclosed is that island, engirt by fens. Bloodthirsty men are on that island. Will my folk welcome him, if he comes into calamity? Different am I." 3. (Her boast has failed: she confesses her faithlessness.) "I past my days in patient longing for my Wulf: then it was rainy weather, and I sat sad. Then the warrior Eadwacer embraced me in his arms: my joy was such, that I felt also a very loathing." 4. (She excuses herself.) "Wulf, my Wulf, my longing for thee (and) thine absence made me sicken: 'twas my aching heart, not my poverty" (that made me false). 5. (Wulf's revenge.) "Hearest thou, Eadwacer? Wulf bears our poor babe to the wood." (Eadwacer deserts her.) "That may easily be cut asunder which never was joined, our union together."

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Dec. 12.—Sir B. Baker, V.P., in the chair.—A paper was read dealing with 'Cask-making Machinery,' by Mr. L. H. Ransome.

SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS.—Dec. 11.—Annual General Meeting.—Mr. W. A. M. Valon, President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected as Council and officers for 1894: President, Mr. G. A. Goodwin; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. H. Faija, W. G. Peirce, and C. C. Carpenter; Other Members of Council, Messrs. W. W. Beaumont, J. Bernays, S. H. Cox, J. C. Fell, C. Gandon, G. M. Lawford, P. F. Nurse, and S. Sellon; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. A. Williams; Joint Hon. Auditors, Mr. A. Lass and Mr. S. Wood.

PHYSICAL.—Dec. 8.—Prof. A. W. Rücker, President, in the chair.—Messrs. J. H. Gillett and F. Hovenden were elected Members.—A paper by Mr. J. Swinburne, 'On a Potentiometer for Alternating Currents,' was read by Mr. Blakesley.—Prof. G. M. Minchin made a communication 'On the Calculation of the Coefficient of Self-Induction of a Circular Current of given Aperture and Cross-Section.'—Another paper, 'On the Magnetic Field of a Current running in a Cylindrical Coil,' was read by Prof. Minchin.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK

- Mon. London Institution, 5.—'Crabs,' Prof. W. F. R. Weldon.
- Institute of Actuaries, 7.—'Methods of deducing the Rate of Mortality from the Experience of Assured Lives, with some Mention of a Method adopted in investigating the Experience of the Clerical, Medical, and General Life Assurance Society,' Mr. W. J. H. Whittall.
- Bibliographical, 7½.—'New Edition of "Lowndes's Bibliographer's Manual,"' Mr. J. H. Isaacs.
- British Architects, 8.—'The Classical Influence in the Architecture of the Indian Region and Afghanistan,' Mr. W. Simpson.
- Aristotelian, 8.—Symposium: 'Is Religion presupposed by Morality, or Morality by Religion?' Messrs. E. J. Ryle, C. C. J. Webb, and A. F. Shand.
- Surveyors' Institution, 8.—'The Valuation (Metropolis) Bill, 1893,' Mr. E. J. Castle.
- Tues. Statistical, 7½.—'The Perils and Protection of Infant Life,' Dr. H. R. Jones.
- Civil Engineers, 8.—'Hydraulic Power Supply in London,' Mr. E. B. Huggins.
- Wed. Geological, 8.—'Stratigraphical, Lithological, and Palaeontological Features of the Gosau Beds of the Gosau District, in the Austrian Salzkammergut,' Mr. H. Kynast; 'Artesian Boring at New Lodge, near Windsor Forest, Berks,' Prof. E. Hull; 'Boring on the Booyen Estate, Witwatersrand,' Mr. D. T. Edwards.
- Meteorological, 8.—'Great Storm of November 16th to 20th, 1893,' Mr. C. Harding; 'Rainfall and Evaporation Observations at the Bombay Water Works,' Mr. S. Tomlinson; 'Changes in the Character of certain Months,' Mr. A. E. Watson.
- Microscopical, 8.—'Ultimate Structure of *Pleurostoma angulatum*,' Mr. T. F. Smith; 'A New Screen for Monochromatic Light,' Mr. J. W. Gifford.
- Folk-lore, 8.—'Old Northern Folk-lore and Folk-Faith,' Mr. F. York Powell; 'Scripture Tableaux in Italian Churches, with Notes on Italian Votive Offerings,' Mr. W. H. D. Rouse.
- Thurs. Chemical, 8.—'The Oxidation Products of Corydoline,' Prof. Dobbin and Mr. A. Lander.
- Linnean, 8.—'Enumeration of all Orchideæ hitherto recorded from Borneo,' Mr. H. N. Ridley; 'Hepaticæ collected by W. B. Elliott in the Islands of St. Vincent and Dominica,' Mr. R. Spruce.
- Historical, 8½.—'The Colonial Empire of the Portuguese to the Death of Albuquerque,' Mr. C. R. Bosley.

#### Science Gossip.

THE admirers of Prof. Haeckel have now a chance of showing their feelings, as it is proposed by a large and influential committee to celebrate his sixtieth birthday, on the 16th of February next, by placing his bust in the Zoological Institute at Jena. Subscriptions should be sent to Prof. Richard Semon, Jena.

THE head of a well-known firm of printers writes to us:—

"As an instance of Prof. Tyndall's generosity, perhaps you will allow us to mention the following:

During the last six or seven years we have from time to time printed several articles of Prof. Tyndall's, and when he finally passed his proof for press, he almost invariably sent a very courteous letter of thanks, stating his appreciation of the attention of the compositors and readers of his articles, and accompanied with a cheque for one guinea to be distributed among those who had to work on his proof. This sum was devoted either to the sick club or to buy a prize for the athletic sports. This always struck us as very exceptional generosity, and it happened not once only, but three or four times during the period referred to."

MR. COOLIDGE writes:—

"With reference to a recent note in your paper on the subject, you may care to know that I have now formally accepted the editorship of the new edition of Mr. Ball's 'Alpine Guide,' vols. i. and ii."

WE should have recorded last week the decease of that well-known conchologist M. Paul Fischer, of the Paris Museum.

#### FINE ARTS

##### CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

ARTISTICALLY as well as historically speaking, none of the Christmas books now lying on our table is more interesting than the reissue of Moxon's edition of *Poems* by the late Laureate which Messrs. Macmillan have brought out. Most of our readers will remember the handsome volume, and it has been more than once reissued in the original form. The new issue is narrower than its predecessors, and the cuts seem most of them worn. Still, the finest of these designs can never lose their charm. Rossetti made in this volume his first appearance as a book illustrator, at a time he was quite unknown to the world at large, and to employ him in such an important work proved the courage of Moxon. Next in interest to his are the graceful, strong, and original designs of "J. E. M." (John Everett Millais), who, even forty years ago, had won a high reputation; nor is the austere sweetness of Mr. Holman Hunt's fine contributions less welcome. Woolner's noble medallion portrait of the poet remains as the frontispiece to the volume.

*The Temple* of George Herbert, always welcome to pious readers, is reprinted by Messrs. Seeley, and accompanied by neat and clear reduced versions of woodcuts by the old masters of the graver sort, such as Dürer, Holbein, Van Leyden, Altdorfer, and Hollar. The whole makes a capital gift-book.—Dr. O. Wendell Holmes's well-known *Autocrat of the Breakfast Table* has been republished in two neat volumes by Messrs. Gay & Bird, enriched by several very spirited illustrations by Mr. Howard Pyle, the thorough realism of which is sometimes, in the nobler sense of the term, grotesque. We do not care for the vulgar faces so cleverly reproduced in such prints as 'The Trotting Match,' but they are undeniably veracious.—So extremely clever are the designs of Mr. C. E. Brock included in the volume of *Humorous Poems*, by Thomas Hood, which Messrs. Macmillan & Co. have sent us, that we read again, with even additional pleasure, the sorrowful legends of 'Faithless Sally Brown' and its analogue 'Faithless Nelly Gray,' and enjoy more than five scores of capital cuts that are worthy of the delightful verses they illustrate. We could not say more in their favour than this. Mr. Brock draws with great crispness and delicacy of touch, and his skill is such that it suits the dainty and pretty servant girls and country maidens Hood was fond of writing about. Almost equally good are his portly old women and men; his 'John Day' is a masterpiece, and his 'Mister B. and Mistress B.,' in whose washhouse Mrs. Round, the laundress, caused such a hubbub, are as good as portraits.—*Her Portrait; or, Phillida's Fortune*, by Mr. C. J. Wills (Griffith, Farran & Co.), contains a well-written story of a good little girl who, to aid her mother, turns artist's model—a class of

damsels who, by the way, have made the fortunes of several popular writers. Phillida in course of time becomes a "lady-companion," succeeds to an ancestral fortune and estate, and finally marries the young man of her choice, an artist who fell in love with her at her first sitting. Mr. G. A. Storey has illustrated this tale with neat little cuts, some of which are very much better (being more carefully drawn) than the others. Mr. Storey's Phillida is not a beauty, although Mr. Wills declares that she was surpassingly handsome.—We cannot say much in praise of *A Book of Pictured Carols*, designed under the direction of A. J. Gaskin (G. Allen). The draughtsmen are stated to be "Members of the Birmingham Art School," as if that were a distinction, and, with some exceptions which reach mediocrity, are affectedly archaic without being masculine, inspired, or severe: such a design as that which represents the combing of the hair of a gaunt queen by three melancholy maidens has all the affectations of those who suppose they are imitating Rossetti when they copy the clumsy style of inferior German woodcuts of the sixteenth century, and add modern sentimentality of a sickly kind. The foolishness of such art, if thus it can be called, is patent. There is nothing but sham archaism of a feeble sort in the ostentatiously rude block called 'A Blessed Angel'; 'The Seven Virgins' has a little humanity and common sense in it, and the frontispiece to 'The Holy Well' is graceful and fairly well drawn; but it is impossible to do anything but pity the feebleness of 'I Saw Three Ships.' A whimsical puerility pervades 'A Book of Pictured Carols,' and extends to some of the poems, which had better not have been "selected" from ancient authorities.—*The Love of Christ* (C. W. Faulkner & Co.) comprises a collection of pious verses by various authors and large plates printed in brown, designed in a modern German manner, weak in execution and sentimental in motive. The plates were "printed in Germany."—The same publishers have issued *Love and Sleep, and other Poems*, by Mr. L. Morris, with large plate illustrations in a pseudo-classic taste, overcharged with sentimentality where pure grace and strength were required to be in harmony with the subjects, if not with the verses of Mr. Lewis Morris. Miss A. Havers and Miss H. M. Bennett were at their worst when they produced these things, the very prettinesses of which offend the taste and prove that the accomplishments of the artists sin against the higher art. The execution, although neat, is smooth, mechanical, and mannered.

What may be called a topographical group of books comes next in order. The largest of the volumes is *Nithsdale: a Series of Reproductions in Photogravure from Drawings* by Mr. J. Peterson, with accompanying letterpress (Glasgow, MacLehose & Sons). The drawings are rather dull and very woolly, sketches from nature at a distance, such as painters call "blots," in a weak, indeterminate fashion, which is without form, and deficient in breadth and luminosity. The best of them is 'Solway Sands,' but even that, either topographically or artistically, was hardly worth publishing. The letterpress is simple and compact, being historical and descriptive memoranda concerning the places Mr. Peterson has somewhat weakly misrepresented.—*Round about Snowdon* (Seeley & Co.), with notes by Mr. J. J. Hissey, is, we presume, reprinted from the *Portfolio*, and comprises thirty plates, in a rather dull and depressing sort of photogravure, from drawings of famous and beautiful scenes made by Mr. T. Huson, who is a sympathetic artist and open to impressions of the right sort. Mr. Hissey's notes are condescendingly explanatory and commonplace.—*Picturesque Old Bristol*, from original drawings by J. S. Prout (Bristol, E. Smith), contains sketches in the old-fashioned lithographic style which was much affected by



the drawing-masters of the last generation but one. A certain interest, but antiquarian rather than artistic, attaches to these slight and not too exact records of some old buildings which have been "improved" off the face of the earth.

*Shakespeare's Land*, a description of Central and Southern Warwickshire, by Mr. Ribton-Turner, with thirteen maps and plans (Simpkin, Marshall & Co.), is a guide-book which may be serviceable to those who know enough not to take all they find in it for gospel. There is useful information as to roads and inns, and where the writer has a good authority to guide him he follows it. But left to himself he sometimes goes astray in his description of old buildings. For instance, at Meriden Church he calls an eighteenth century vestry a *chantry chapel*, and says that the "oak roof decorated with bosses is modern." Now there is an oak roof in the nave, but it is ancient, and there are roofs decorated with bosses in the aisles, but they are of deal. What Mr. Ribton-Turner means when of the curious church at Berkswell he says, "The interior of the church rises to the chancel in three stages, probably for processional purposes," we leave to the guessers of riddles. In our simplicity we thought the floor was raised to get it above the crypts which are formed beneath the chancel and the western part of the nave. Perhaps the printer is responsible for the queer transformation, on p. 255, of Adrian Stokes, the husband of the Duchess of Suffolk in Queen Mary's time, into "Adrian Hope." The plans are generally clear, and will be useful. That of Coventry should have shown the site of the cathedral. As the book is intended for the pocket, and is itself somewhat thick, it would be better if it were not padded out with advertisements.

#### MINOR EXHIBITIONS.

THE Fine-Art Society has divided its premises and found room simultaneously for two collections of water-colour drawings, each by a single painter, besides a mixed body of works by various artists, many of which are very excellent. Of the "one-man" shows, that of Mr. A. W. Weedon depicts with much brilliance, and under different effects of light, sixty scenes in Sussex, Hampshire, and Scotland, most of which are highly attractive and characteristic, although none of them can be called poetical, the most valuable quality of landscape painting. The best of Mr. Weedon's highly accomplished productions are *Ben Lomond, Evening* (No. 5); a luminous and limpid *Low Tide, Bosham* (8); *Red Roofs about a Narrow Wharf* (12), an excellent study of light and colour; *In the Marshes near Rye* (17), an exemplary representation of the atmosphere; *Low Tide, Keyhaven* (26), which is exceptionally well drawn; *A Sussex Quay* (34); and *Southampton* (40), which it would be hard to surpass in its own way, especially the opalescence of the water. Mr. A. W. Rimington, in the other room, exhibits one hundred and twenty-three "Drawings of Spain, its Architecture and Landscape." Of these, we like best *Transept Door of Orense Cathedral* (7), on account of its breadth and good lighting and clever management of the graceful fountain, which is one of many in the old Gothic city. The sunlight in *Roadside Cross* (9) is praiseworthy, and so is it in *Campanile, Cordova* (16); *Puerta de las dos Hermanas* (18) is a glowing study, with rich colour; *At Fontarabia* (29) is an excellent example of how to draw a subject of the sort skilfully, but without sentiment; *Monforte* (73) ought not to be overlooked by the lover of studies of interesting architecture; nor is the *Market Place at Lugo* (86) less cleverly, firmly, or effectively drawn and coloured.

The eighty-three drawings, or rather formless sketches embracing a limited range of artistic and objective themes, by Mr. D. S. MacColl, which

Messrs. Boussod, Valadon & Co. have hung in their convenient new gallery in Regent Street, Waterloo Place, show clearly that the draughtsman, despite his amateurish way of treating his themes, has what Mr. Pepys would call "pretty" notions of colour, and (though in a very much inferior degree) tone and harmony. The visitor is commanded to ignore the veracities of the subject, of form, and all that is pathetic and expressive in art. The painter has much to learn in respect to form and light and shade, and their exponent, draughtsmanship. In short, although Mr. MacColl's crudities are not without a sort of charm, they are but experimental, and only essay to secure some among the many elements of art which has passed beyond the rudimentary stage. It is, perhaps, needless to treat seriously such inchoate work, but it would be unjust, merely because it is crude, to ignore whatever merit there is in it.

At Mr. McLean's Gallery in the Haymarket the student will find, among a number of less praiseworthy instances of academic skill, a certain number of commendable pictures which no art lover should overlook. The cleverest are M. L. Falero's *The Blonde* (1); Mr. R. Macbeth's *Any Fish To-day?* (3); Mr. H. Moore's Titian-like *O'er the Blue Atlantic Sea* (10); the genre piece of M. G. Vastagh called *A Mother is a Mother still* (34); Mr. M. Stone's pretty sentimentality which he calls *The Rendezvous* (45); and Mlle. R. Bonheur's *In the Pyrenees* (47). Besides these we notice works by M. G. Max, Kiessel, Orchardson (a capital sketch of his important 'The Young Duke'), P. Billet, G. B. Amendola, J. Stark, B. Foster, Fortuny (which we have seen before), P. De Wint, D. Cox, J. Holland, E. de Blaas, R. P. Bonington, and Mr. Alma Tadema (*A Visit to Agrippa*).

Despite certain harsh and adust elements of light and shade, tone and colour, *Nelson's Last Signal at Trafalgar*, by Mr. T. Davidson, which Mr. A. Lucas is exhibiting at 31, New Bond Street, has a great deal of spirit and expressiveness. The scene is the deck of the Victory at the beginning of the fight; the incidents are appropriate and characteristic; the figures stand well on their feet; and the story is well and sympathetically told. Although not a picture in the higher sense of the term, it is, its colouring and chiaroscuro excepted, a capital piece of historic genre.

We are asked to call attention to "An Exhibition of Water-Colour Drawings" by Mr. B. Hiles, who, having the misfortune to lose most of his members, contrived to paint with his mouth. These examples of triumphing over difficulties are to be seen at the gallery of Messrs. Frost & Reed, Clare Street, Bristol.

At Messrs. Obach & Co.'s Gallery may be seen a number of pictures by French and German artists which critics will appreciate highly. The most interesting is a rather rough, yet vigorous and masculine, portrait of Prof. Max Müller by Herr G. Santer. Along with this are shown capital landscapes by MM. Harpignies, van Marcke, and Cleys; and figure pictures by MM. Villon, Roybet, and Isabey.

#### THE BISHOP OF NOTTINGHAM.

DR. EDWARD TROLLOPE passed away peacefully on Sunday at the ripe age of seventy-six. He belonged to an old Lincolnshire race, members of which have taken an important part in local politics from the days of the Tudors. His father, Sir John Trollope, Baronet, who died in 1820, was, we have understood, devoted to public business, but evinced little taste for literature or art. Edward, his sixth son, was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford, where he proceeded B.A. in 1839 and M.A. in 1855. His residence at Oxford was during a time when the beauty of mediæval architecture came as a new revelation to men whose fathers had considered our old churches mere relics of Gothic barbarism. This revolution of feeling had a deep influence on young Trollope. He began at once

to collect information about old English art in all its branches, and soon made acquaintance with the leaders of the movement. In early life (1843) he was presented by his brother, the patron, to the family living of Leasingham, near Sleaford, where the rest of his life was spent.

No sooner had he become permanently domiciled in Lincolnshire than he devoted a great part of his time to the illustration of the history and antiquities of his native county. One of his first acts, as we have understood, was to unite with the late Sir Charles Anderson, and a few other young men of like tastes with himself, in founding the Lincolnshire Architectural Society, a body which has done much good work in conserving old buildings and impeding destruction under the guise of restoration. When in 1867 he was appointed Archdeacon of Stow, he became possessed of an authority which on almost all occasions was exercised with discretion. We could name more than one old building which owes to Dr. Trollope's tact and care the preservation of nearly every point of interest which it now possesses.

The papers which he wrote on archaeological subjects are past counting. Many of them appeared in the local *Architectural Journal*. Others were published by the Royal Archaeological Institute and the Society of Antiquaries. We may mention as especially noteworthy a paper on labyrinths, which, we believe, contained illustrations of all existing English examples, as well as of some of the more important continental specimens. The life of the English Pope, Adrian IV., which was issued in the *Archæologia*, though by no means exhaustive, is a contribution to history of permanent value. The same may be said of his account of the captivity of King John of France in the Lincolnshire castle of Somerton.

By far the greater part of Dr. Trollope's writings appear in the journals of various historical and architectural bodies. He, however, occasionally published volumes on his own account. The 'Sepulchral Memorials,' issued in 1858, though it has long been superseded, did good work in its time by suggesting reasonable memorials for the dead, in place of the frightful things which local stone-masons were wont to furnish. Some of the designs in this book are open to criticism, yet the worst of them is a treasure of art in comparison with many of those results of local talent which make our graveyards hideous.

'Sleaford and the Wapentakes of Flaxwell and Aswardham' was published some twenty years ago. It is by no means an ideal contribution to local history, but is a very useful work of reference, free from those errors which render the writings of many of our older antiquaries such grotesque reading.

In 1877 Archdeacon Trollope was appointed by the Crown Suffragan Bishop of Nottingham, a dignity which he held until his death. Bishop Trollope gave liberally to the preparations needed for making Southwell fitted for the see of a bishop; he was also a generous donor, we have understood, to the adornment of Lincoln Minster. He was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1853, but withdrew from membership shortly before his death.

#### THE DOME OF ST. PETER'S.

WHEN the late Mr. Symonds was passing his life of Michael Angelo through the press, his attention was called to the conclusions of a German professor (who had seen the model for the cupola of St. Peter's now in the Vatican, and made by the directions of Michael Angelo) that the original scheme of the great architect included three shells, instead of the two recognized by the tradition; and he requested us to ascertain more definitely if that were the case. I went to the Vatican, and a careful examination of the model as it now exists satisfied me that the third and inner shell now to be seen had been added by the decorator for the purpose

of carrying better the decorations. I wrote this to Mr. Symonds, but as none of the documents to which I could get access, or any tradition in the office, gave any further light on the subject, this remained my conjecture. Lately, however, reading in an old encyclopedia of artists (Boni's), I found in the life of Giacomo della Porta the following passage:—

"Ricevuto l'ordine da Sisto V., al quale gli imbellimenti di Roma ottenero l'immortalità, e con permesso di lui fatta la curva delle volte più ellittica che non era nel modello, per darle più grazia, incominciò l'opera ai 15 di luglio 1568, e in ventisette mesi occupandosi sempre costantemente seicento operai che lavoravano talvolta di notte, terminolla in novembre, 1570."

The terms employed show clearly that the curve of the dome was altered, and this could only be done by the addition of an inner shell, resting on the inner cornice, which also serves as the gallery, and this is indicated in the model, where the third or inner shell, which is not elliptical, but really hemispherical, is not tied with the original structure of the model, and might be removed without affecting the dome of Michael Angelo. It now diminishes the loftiness of the structure, but presents a better surface for the interior decorations. It is clear, therefore, that the original tradition was correct, and that the professor was careless in his examination of the model.

W. J. STILLMAN.

### Fine-Art Gossip.

To the names which we mentioned a fortnight ago of collectors about to contribute to the special exhibition of early Tuscan and Milanese art at the New Gallery may be added those of the Earl of Rosebery, the Earl of Ashburnham, the Marquis of Bute, Mr. Fuller-Maitland of Stanstead, Mr. Alfred Morrison, Mr. Drax, Mr. Wagner, and Miss Cohen. Altogether the exhibition cannot fail to be the richest that has been ever held in work of the special classes which it illustrates. On the other hand, one of its features as announced, namely, the separate exhibition of the collection of Sir Charles Robinson, will not, according to present arrangements, be included.

THE next exhibition at the Burlington Fine-Arts Club will be open soon after the Christmas holidays. It is one of Japanese lacquer and metal work. The collection is likely to be one of great beauty and completeness, contributions having been promised by all the chief amateurs of Japanese art in England, as Sir Trevor Lawrence, Mr. W. C. Alexander, Mr. Tomkinson of Kidderminster, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Gilbertson, Mr. H. S. Trower, and others.

It is intended to hold early in the spring, and at the house, No. 1, St. Edmund's Terrace, Regent's Park, of the deceased painter, a representative exhibition of the works of F. M. Brown, comprising ten or twelve of his best productions.

THE stupendous 'Dictionary of Artists who have exhibited Works in the Principal London Exhibitions,' by compiling which Mr. Algernon Graves, just ten years ago, covered himself with glory and won the eternal gratitude of art critics and collectors, is likely to be surpassed by a new edition by the same indefatigable author, which is certain to be more acceptable still, as it is expanded to 1893, or thirteen years more than the original. It will contain nearly 10,000 additional names, or more than double the older one. The first issue dealt with the summer exhibitions in London alone; in the new the winter exhibitions will be available. Four collections only were dealt with in the first dictionary; its successor will be much larger, and, additionally, treat of the contents of the Grosvenor Gallery, New Gallery, Old Water-Colour Society, New Water-Colour Society, and Institute of Painters in Oil Colours, besides a miscellaneous column, where some valuable

but small collections are treated of—the Portland Gallery, for instance, and the three Dudley Gallery exhibitions. Besides these things, the earlier winter exhibitions, before 1820, the portrait exhibitions at South Kensington, and a category of similar gatherings will be analyzed and the results incorporated. During the last ten years Mr. Graves has ascertained with great care the full Christian names of the various artists exhibiting, so that the new publication will be much more complete than the old one was.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on the 8th inst. the following engravings: The Winners of the Doncaster St. Leger Stakes from 1815 to 1842, a set of twenty-eight, coloured, 32l.; A Mezzotint Portrait of Mrs. Elliot, after T. Gainsborough, by J. Dean, 55l.; Portrait of the Right Hon. the Countess of Derby (Elizabeth Farren), after Sir T. Lawrence, by F. Bartolozzi, 35l.

MESSRS. W. HODGE & CO., of Glasgow, are going to issue shortly a volume on beliefs and customs associated with well-worship north of the Tweed. The title of the book is 'Folk-lore of Scottish Lochs and Springs.' Its author, Mr. J. M. Mackinlay, has devoted considerable space to such aspects of the subject as the connexion of springs with early saints, offerings at wells and lochs, water spirits, and the relations of sun-worship and well-worship. There is an introductory chapter on the worship of water.

'THE DEVILS OF NOTRE DAME,' drawn by Mr. Joseph Pennell, with a comment by Mr. R. A. M. Stevenson, of which the first instalment appears in this week's *Pall Mall Budget*, will be reissued shortly on Japanese paper in a very limited edition.

THE artistic contents of the house of the late Baron Leys, at Antwerp, which had hitherto been maintained intact by his executors, are to be sold. It will be curious to see what buyers, if any, will be found for the chief item of the sale, which consists of the great fresco painted by the master on all four walls of the principal saloon, and representing the mediæval city of Antwerp and its population, both within and without the walls, on a day of public festival. Stringent conditions are laid down as to the method of removing this great scenic work from the walls on which it is painted, the making good of injuries, &c. Besides this there are included in the sale upwards of forty easel pictures by the master, chiefly historical subjects and portraits, as many unfinished sketches and studies in oil, upwards of a hundred chalk and pen studies and sketches, and a considerable collection of miscellaneous curiosities, besides pictures by modern artists of the Flemish School. The sale is to take place on Tuesday next and three following days.

A PORTRAIT of Madame Récamier in white marble, by Chinard, was sold in Paris the other day for 14,350 fr.

IN Crete a hoard of Mycænean vases has been found in a grotto near Kamarais on Mount Ida. They resemble some vases of the island of Thera, and especially some lately found in Egypt. Mr. Myers has visited the locality in company with the president of the Greek Syllogos of Candia, and has copied the vases with a view to writing on the subject.

THE new class of Mussulman museums springing up is making rapid development. That at Paris has already acquired importance and is receiving additions. In Constantinople the new department is now put in communication with the Ministry of Pious Foundations, which is securing relics of antiquity in remote or decaying mosques and buildings. At Cairo an earnest effort is being made to save the neglected treasures. Perhaps South Kensington is entitled to the credit of being the first to set the example of cultivating this branch of collection, and possesses some of the choicest objects of Mussulman and Oriental art.

## MUSIC

### THE WEEK.

ALBERT HALL.—Royal Choral Society.  
ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Popular Concerts.

THERE is not much temptation for choral societies to undertake the labour of reviving Handel's neglected oratorios, for the number of amateurs who feel an interest in work of this nature is lamentably small, though England is supposed to be a Handel-loving nation. The composer's last completed oratorio 'Jephtha,' written when blindness was rapidly overtaking him, was given twice in 1869, under the direction of Sir Joseph (then Mr.) Barnby, at Novello's Oratorio Concerts, when a determined but eventually unsuccessful endeavour was made to establish the diapason normal in this country. Additional accompaniments were written by Sir Arthur (then Mr.) Sullivan, and these were used at the performance in the Albert Hall on Thursday last week. The arranger has been taken to task in some quarters for over-ambition in his treatment of the airs, and certainly the embroidery in one or two numbers tended to obscure the original melody; yet musicians of undoubted capacity hold diametrically opposite views as to what should be done in cases of this nature, and a consensus of opinion seems out of the question. As regards the choruses the effect of the accompaniments was almost uniformly felicitous. Though rarely performed, 'Jephtha' is, of course, familiar to earnest students of Handel, and minute description of the score is not required. Some pains had been taken to present the work in the most favourable light, Mrs. Henschel being engaged for the part of Iphis, the music of which is light and eminently suited to her voice and style. Mr. Edward Lloyd was, of course, unexceptionable in the principal character; and commendable service was rendered by Miss Margaret Hoare, Miss Agnes Janson, Miss Florence Oliver, and Mr. Norman Salmond. As a matter of course the choruses were very finely rendered, and it need scarcely be added that, in accordance with the Albert Hall custom, the oratorio was presented in an abbreviated form, the part of Hamor, which contains some extremely fine music, being reduced to a single recitative.

At the Popular Concert on Saturday last Bazzini's Quartet in G, Op. 79, was repeated with the same artists as on the previous Monday, and the only other concerted work in the programme was Dvorák's masterly and beautiful Pianoforte Quintet in A, Op. 81. Beethoven's Variations and Fugue in E flat, Op. 35, were admirably played by Mr. Leonard Borwick, and the most gifted of English pianists firmly declined an encore. Herr Klengel introduced a Romance in E for violoncello by Volkmann, Op. 7; and Miss Fillunger was heard to much advantage in an air from Schubert's little-known work 'Der häusliche Krieg,' and two of Schumann's *Lieder*.

On Monday M. Paderewski appeared, and a more interesting and attractive programme was never provided at these concerts. The Polish artist's rendering of Weber's beautiful and too rarely heard Sonata in A flat was in itself a treat of the highest order. The romantic music lent

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itself admirably to his exquisitely refined and almost feminine manner, and points of interest were disclosed hitherto unsuspected. Another remarkable feature of the programme was a new series of six songs from the pen of M. Paderewski, being musical settings of verses by his countryman Adam Mickiewicz, translated into German by A. Rossig, and into English by Miss Alma Tadema. The last-named version was used by Mr. Lloyd, who interpreted the songs, and unsatisfactory as some of the lines may be, the intrinsic beauty of the lyrics made itself felt. A vein of sadness is apparent in more or less degree in all of them, but the tenderness and piquancy which, as a rule, characterize Slavonic music of the best sort are always present in varying measure. More than this cannot be said, at any rate on a first hearing, but the exquisite interpretation by Mr. Lloyd, with the composer as accompanist, deserves acknowledgment. Mozart's Quintet in G minor and Brahms's Pianoforte Quartet in A, Op. 26, were included in this scheme, and both these masterpieces were rendered almost to perfection, Mr. Whitehouse being the violoncellist, in consequence of the continued illness of Signor Piatti.

### Musical Gossip.

A FLUTE recital was given by Mr. Frederic Griffith in the concert-room of the Royal Academy of Music on Friday evening last week, the programme including Bach's Sonata in B minor, Mr. Edward German's clever suite, and a new suite by Mr. J. Moir Clark. Mr. Griffith was assisted by Mr. Arthur Oswald, Miss Louise Phillips, and Miss Llewella Davies.

APART from the appearance of M. Paderewski, which, of course, had the effect of drawing amateurs in unprecedented numbers to last Saturday's concert at the Crystal Palace, there was little to note in the programme. The Polish pianist was heard in his delightful Fantaisie Polonoise, which we have already described, and in minor items by Chopin, Liszt, and Rubinstein; but there is nothing to add to what has been already said concerning the executive gifts of this great artist. The purely orchestral features were Beethoven's Symphony in D, No. 2, Sterndale Bennett's 'Parisina' Overture, Rossini's 'William Tell,' and Dr. A. C. Mackenzie's intermezzo "On the Waters" from his cantata 'Jason.' Madame Ada Patterson gave much satisfaction as the vocalist.

A VIOLIN recital was given by Mr. George Palmer, an esteemed professor at the Guildhall School of Music, in the small room at the Queen's Hall on Monday evening; and simultaneously Messrs. Hann gave their third chamber concert this season at the Brixton Hall.

ON Tuesday evening the Musical Guild gave their last concert of the autumn series at the Kensington Town Hall, the programme including Beethoven's Quartet in F minor, Op. 95; Schumann's Pianoforte Trio in D minor, Op. 63; and Brahms's Sonata in F for pianoforte and violoncello, Op. 99. The next series of concerts will take place in May and June, 1894.

AN interesting concert was given by Mlle. Douste de Fortis and M. René Ortmans at the Princes' Hall on Tuesday evening. The programme included a Sonata in B flat for piano and violin by Hans Huber, a Pianoforte Sonata in A flat by Carlo Albanesi, Saint-Saëns's Pianoforte Quartet in B flat, Op. 41, and smaller items. Both the sonatas were given for the first time, and are works of considerable merit. The concert-givers were assisted by Mr. Alfred

Hobday, Mr. Gallrein, and Miss Nina Martineau.

WE have received the special Handel number of the *Musical Times*, which corresponds with the Mozart and Beethoven numbers issued in previous years. The present publication contains many portraits and interesting facsimiles; articles on the great composer by Mr. Joseph Bennett, Sir Walter Parratt, and Mr. W. H. Cummings; and personal anecdotes, for the authenticity of which in some instances the proofs may not be wholly trustworthy. Speaking generally, however, the number is not only readable, but valuable.

AT the beginning of the new year the price of the *Musical Standard*, the oldest weekly musical paper, will be reduced to one penny, and its size increased to seventy-two columns.

SIR GEORGE ELVEY, for many years organist at St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, died last Saturday at the advanced age of seventy-seven. He gained his appointment in 1835, when only nineteen years old, graduated as Mus.Bac. in 1838 at Oxford, and in 1840 as Mus.Doc. In 1871 he received the honour of knighthood, and in 1882 he retired, his successor being Sir Walter (then Mr.) Parratt. He was a prolific composer of church music, and some of his services and anthems are extremely effective, Handel being his favourite model. His views on music generally were curiously conservative, and he had no sympathy whatever with modern developments. Until the time of his retirement the organ at St. George's had F manuals and pedal-board, and was tuned to unequal temperament. Sir George Elvey was four times married and had many children.

MR. W. H. CUMMINGS will deliver three lectures on 'The English School of Composition' at the Royal Institution during the winter season.

M. MASSENET is rearranging two of the parts in his opera 'Werther' in order to please M. Maurel, who is anxious to appear as the melancholy hero. The music will, therefore, be transposed to baritone range, and the leading baritone part made suitable for tenor.

AMONG a number of hitherto unpublished compositions left by the composer Tchaikowsky there is said to be a new opera. A symphony, originally written for the London Philharmonic Concerts, is to be performed shortly for the first time at Berlin.

FRIEHR VON STERNECK, who may be considered the founder of the Mozarteum at Salzburg, of which he was for a considerable time president, has just died at the age of about eighty.

### PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

- Mon. Popular Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
- Highbury Philharmonic Society, Mr. Cowen's Cantata 'The Water Lily,' &c., 8, Highbury Athenæum.
- Trinity College Orchestral Concert, 8, Princes' Hall.
- Tues. Royal Academy of Music Students' Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
- Stock Exchange Orchestral Society's Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
- Mr. Leo Tausig's Concert, 8, Steinway Hall.
- Wed. London Ballad Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
- M. Paderewski's Pianoforte Recital, 4, Hampstead Conservatoire.
- Royal College of Music Orchestral Concert, 7.30, Alexandra House.
- Westminster Orchestral Society's Concert, 8, Westminster Town Hall.
- Thurs. Herr Alfred Gallrein's Concert, 8, Steinway Hall.
- THREE Strolling Players' Amateur Orchestral Society's Concert, 8.30, Queen's Hall.

### DRAMA

#### THE WEEK.

OPÉRA COMIQUE.—Independent Theatre Representation: 'The Black Cat,' a Play in Three Acts. By John Todhunter.

"We are not acting an Ibsen play," says in 'The Black Cat' a feminine character whose functions correspond to some extent with those of Desgenais in 'Les Filles de Marbre.' This assertion raises, very naturally, a laugh. A piece more strongly imbued with the spirit of Ibsen it would be difficult to indicate. Arthur Denham, Dr. Tod-

hunter's hero, is a Torvald Helmer gone to the bad, and Constance, his wife, is a cross between Nora Helmer and Hedda Gabler, as mutinous and unreasonable as the former, and as resolute in defiance as the latter. In addition to some of the attributes of Desgenais, Miss Macfarlane has functions not unlike those of Mrs. Linden. A kind of resemblance, on which it is needless to insist, extends to the introduction of a little neo-paganism; and the "vine leaves in the hair" of Hedda may be set against the libation to Demeter spilt by the childish hands of Undine.

Some points of difference there are. The Englishman, though lachrymose enough, is not so persistently dismal as the Norwegian, and he is decidedly less provincial. Again, Dr. Todhunter's piece is pleasanter to see, yet perhaps less artistically effective. The sombre, unlovely stories of Ibsen may be considered studies in dun or drab or ash colour. They are, however, consistent. Dr. Todhunter, on the other hand, prepares us to accept a clever and comic sketch of manners, and then turns about and ends with a suicide. Unlovely enough is the heroine, a strange outcome of hysteria and "strong-mindedness," who repels the advances of her only daughter and alternately scorches and chills her husband. In a pleasing lyric one of the Restoration rhymesters addresses his mistress:—

Give me more love or more disdain,  
The frozen or the torrid zone.

The most zealous and passionate lover would scarcely demand transitions such as Constance perpetually supplies. We are not prepared to find her quit, for the sake of a man she can neither love nor respect, a world she loves to perplex. Nothing in the play prepares the mind for such a termination. Neither as muse nor love has Constance done anything to inspire her husband. She shows a measure of common sense, if not of sagacity, despises the criticisms of her friends, repels their compliments, and derides their affectations. Quite foolish enough is she, however, to bring into her husband's house a woman able and prepared to be all that she herself is not. The inevitable result is brought about. While painting the features of his goddess, and drinking full draughts of genius from her eyes, Master Arthur makes love to her. The lady, who has been divorced by one husband, and has deserted a second, is naturally responsive, and the wife, on her return, finds them in one another's arms. Such things have been and will be again. The suicide of the woman, none the less, is nothing if not Ibsenish. It is unheroic, unromantic, ineffective, insignificant. It is as unnatural and unreasonable as Nora Helmer's desertion of her children. Dr. Todhunter has gone in this piece nearer to a dramatic success than before. His play has much crisp dialogue and some fairly happy epigram. It kept the public pleased and amused through two acts, to break faith with it in the third.

Miss Hall Caine showed as the heroine great ability and charm, and played in plaintive and not wholly unsympathetic fashion a difficult and thankless part; Miss Mary Keegan was all that is most

seductive as the Delilah, in this case named Blanche Tremain; and Messrs. Bucklaw, Orlando Barnett, and Neville Doone realized fairly the eccentric characters allotted them.

### Grammatical Gossip.

BESIDES the volume of essays already announced, Messrs. Macmillan & Co. will publish immediately for Mr. Goldwin Smith two small volumes of 'Specimens of Greek Tragedy' translated into verse. The first volume, after a short preface, contains specimens of Æschylus and Sophocles, the second is devoted to Euripides.

It may be interesting just now to note that in the current number of *Englische Studien* Prof. Hales gives good reason for discrediting the common statement that 'Ralph Roister Doister' was written by Udall while head master of Eton, to be acted by the boys of that school. It seems likely that it was, in fact, written for Westminster, though a year or two before Udall was appointed to that head-mastership. The date of the play, the first English comedy as it is generally called, is shown to be most probably 1552.

'PICKWICK,' by Messrs. Burnand and Solomon, first produced at the Comedy on the 7th of February, 1889, has been revived at the Trafalgar Square Theatre. Mr. C. P. Little replaces Mr. Arthur Cecil as Pickwick, Mr. Hawtrey Mr. Rutland Barrington as the baker, and Miss Jessie Bond Miss Lottie Venne as Mrs. Bardell.

THE anniversary dinner of the Actors' Benevolent Fund on Monday last elicited good speeches from the chairman, Mr. Burdett Coutts, Mr. Tree, Dr. Russell, Sir E. Clarke, and others. The address, somewhat academical as it was, of Dean Hole, elicited applause louder than often has been heard on a similar occasion.

'THE DÉBUTANTE,' announced as "a little intermezzo" by Mr. James D. Viner, was given before 'The Black Cat' at the Opéra Comique on Friday in last week. It is a curiously inept piece, with which Miss Rose Nesbitt and Mr. W. L. Abingdon did nothing.

At the annual "At Home" of the Independent Theatre, on the 9th of January next, Mr. Grein will give 'Between the Lights,' a dialogue, in the performance of which Miss Alice Kingsley will take part, and a translation from the Italian, by Mr. G. A. Greene, entitled 'A Fatal Passion,' the heroine of which will be played by Miss Rose Nesbitt.

THE next change at Daly's Theatre will consist of the substitution for 'The School for Scandal' on New Year's Day of 'The Country Girl,' Garrick's alteration of 'The Country Wife.' In the part of Miss Peggy, first played by Miss Reynolds, a pupil of Garrick who made in it her first appearance at Drury Lane, Miss Rehan should distinguish herself. The last exponent we recall in London is the late Marie Litton, whose best character it was.

MR. CHARLES WYNDHAM will, it is now stated, make his reappearance at the Criterion in 'The Headless Man,' a comedy by Mr. Burnand, first seen at that theatre on the 27th of July, 1889.

'MRS. OTHELLO' will shortly be transferred from Toole's Theatre to the Vaudeville.

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